

**Sports / A23**

Red Sox a game away from World Series sweep

**Business / B1**

Booming call center sector sees P38B in revenues

**Entertainment / A28**

Jolina's boyfriend a lawyer who knows 'how to make me feel good'

**News / A2**

DOF, COA clear Winston Garcia

**INQUIRER IN-DEPTH**

Mga nasa bingit ng buhay: ang kanilang hiling, dalangin Ngayong 10:30 ng gabi, sa ABC



## Bush-Kerry race deadlocked six days before US elections

SIOUX CITY, Iowa—In the mail, on the phone and in courtrooms across the nation, activists, lawyers and partisans of all kinds are intensifying their efforts to shape the outcome of next week's presidential race.

New state polls suggest that the race between US President George W. Bush and Sen. John Kerry was deadlocked in Florida, Ohio and Indiana.

BUSH-KERRY/A8

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Thursday, October 28, 2004 ★★ 56 pages / 5 sections / vol. 19 / no. 323

## 4 vital gov't witnesses in Nida murder missing

By Philip C. Tubeza

LESS than two weeks before the third death anniversary of actress Nida Blanca, the Department of Justice yesterday announced that four vital government witnesses in the case had gone missing.

One of the witnesses, a helper of former

4VITAL/A18

website: www.inq7.net



MELISSAWATCH, named after Melissa Mercado-Martel (right), is launched in the home of Gina de Venecia (left) with DSWD Secretary Dinky Soliman.



SPICE in former life of Sen. Lito Lapid, Melanie Marquez, lunches with her ex at Senate lounge.



THE DISTAFF side came in their fineries to celebrate the 88th anniversary of the Senate. From left, Rep. Cynthia Villar, Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago, Marissa Lapid and Alice Lacson. JESYUSON.

# Abaya wife: Name names

## AFP chief's spouse dares Miriam

By Alcuin Papa and Michael Lim Ubac

THE WIFE of the outgoing Armed Forces chief of staff wants Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago to name the spouses of senior military officials who are supposedly involved in "institutionalized" corruption in the AFP.

"Mrs. Santiago should name would attest to this.

"They know me and they know that I would not do anything like that. I am not [like] that and I am not the wife of the chief of staff who is being alluded to. I will look anybody straight in the eye [and say] that I did my job well as

wife of the chief of staff," added Abaya, wife of Gen. Narciso Abaya and undersecretary of the National Anti-Poverty Commission.

Santiago had earlier said the wives of senior officials led by the AFP chief of staff received a cash reward of around P100 million, which they used to buy expensive jewelry and luxury vehicles, and to pay for trips abroad and the services of dance instructors.

ABAYA/A18



TROUBLE with goodbye is plain to see during send-off rites at the Navy headquarters for Marine Lt. Col. Romeo Tenalgo, who leaves behind two sons, Karl and Kevin, for his new posting in Patikul, Sulu.

## Cops nab RP's most wanted criminal

By Tonette Orejas  
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—Police yesterday announced the capture of an alleged kidnapper and hired gun tagged as the country's most wanted criminal.

But shortly after the Philippine National Police basked in the heat of arresting Ricardo Peralta, founder of the Red Vigilante Group based in Nueva Ecija, on Tuesday night, its score card was quickly challenged.

"He's our member and he's definitely no criminal," Nilo de la Cruz, spokesperson of the Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPA-ABB) told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview.

A task force formed by Chief Supt. Quirino de la Torre, Central Luzon police chief, captured Peralta and his wife Tess at around 7 p.m. Tuesday in a

COPS NAB/A4

## JDV wants House to end Garcia probe

By Cynthia D. Balana, Alcuin Papa and Armand N. Nocum

SPEAKER Jose de Venecia yesterday called for the termination of the House inquiry into the alleged corruption in the military, saying the hearings had established that the wealth of Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia was indeed unexplained.

De Venecia told reporters in an ambush interview that there was no need to extend the hearings being conducted by the committee on national defense chaired by Rep. Roilo Golez (Kampi, Parañaque) and the committee on banks headed by Rep. Jaime Lopez (Lakas, Manila).

"It's already proven that the wealth is unexplained. It's very clear. What more do you want to prove?" he said. Besides, he added, he did not want the two committees to engage in "large-scale witch-hunting."

The actual court-martial of Garcia may not start this week, as

JDV WANTS/A18

## Palace announces breakthrough on 'sin tax' bills

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE "HANDS ON" strategy of President Macapagal-Arroyo has broken the impasse on the measure raising taxes on cigarettes and alcohol products, Malacañang said yesterday.

"We have cleared a major obstacle to the passage of other tax measures at the soonest possible time," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said in a statement.

The President invited top executives of Fortune Tobacco Corp. and Philip Morris Philippines to her

Forbes Park residence in Makati on Monday night, when she unveiled a compromise sin tax meant to avert a delay in the passage of the bill raising taxes on cigarettes and alcohol.

The meeting was called after the ways and means committee of the House of Representatives

decided not to index the taxes on tobacco and alcohol to inflation. It instead approved a 3-percent increase in 2006 and 2007.

The committee also watered down a tax hike on tobacco and alcohol, raising taxes by 20 percent next year rather than the 30 per-

cent proposed by Malacañang.

Reacting to criticisms that House Bill No. 3174 had been watered down and that House members yielded to the wishes of cigarette manufacturers, Rep. Jesli Lapus, chair of the ways and

PALACE/A8



MALACANANG PHOTO  
THE GOLDEN YEARS: "Spectacular" was the rave review of the gala presentation of "Ginintuang Moreno," a tribute to Pitoy Moreno's 50 years in the fashion trade, graced by President Arroyo at the CCP Tuesday night.

## 'So moving to be with the children with special needs'

By Cheche V. Moral  
Lifestyle

"IT WAS very moving to be with the children. I saw all kinds of children, many children with very special needs, children in jail, children who are given another chance," Princess Caroline of Monaco told the INQUIRER yesterday about her three-day visit here with abandoned and neglected children had personally affected her.

She added during the exclusive interview that she hoped to see an "improvement in the conditions of the center of detention for children" the next time she visits.

She was referring to the Manila Youth Reception Center in Arroceros, which she visited last Monday.

"World progress is meaningless when there

SO MOVING/A8



MOBBED by children of a lesser god, Princess Caroline shines in the midst of squalor at a Makati slum where she visited eight homes for abandoned and special children cared for and funded by the Virlanie Foundation. She left last night after a three-day visit here.

REUTERS





# Cops nab RP's most wanted criminal

From page A1

restaurant at the SM City Pampanga in the City of San Fernando, 5 km northwest of this camp.

De la Torre said arrest warrants had been issued against Peralta for three cases of kidnap-for-ransom, robbery and gun-for-hire. Except for robbery, the cases are nonbailable offenses.

The arrest came a month after PNP Director General Edgardo Aglipay announced the hunt for the country's top 10 criminals.

## P1.2-M reward

Accused of masterminding a string of summary executions in Central Luzon, Peralta landed at the top of the heap,

with authorities putting a P1.2-million bounty on his head.

According to De la Torre, RVG members carried out assassination missions for several businessmen and politicians. He did not name them.

Peralta declined to give a statement when the INQUIRER reached him in this police camp at past 9 p.m. Tuesday.

In an interview in August 2002, Peralta denied the allegations against him and his group.

By his own accounts, former New People's Army rebels formed the RVG in 1998 to mediate in agrarian disputes.

Peralta, the son of the late NPA com-

mander Arcadio Peralta, left the NPA in 1988.

## 'People's army'

The RVG, he said, evolved into a "people's army" that rendered its own brand of justice on illegal drug traders, rapists, abusive landlords and other criminals.

"The PNP has ceased being the people's protector," Peralta then said, referring to the alleged involvement of police officials and men in criminal activities.

Gapan City, for one, has become the "pusod ng druga" (the center of the illegal drugs trade) in the region, he said.

The police likened the RVG to the Red Scorpion Gang that degenerated into a notorious criminal syndicate.

Also in 2002, the PNP launched Oplan Red Scorpion to hunt down the RVG members. Peralta's arrest ended the almost two-year campaign.

"Kalokohan ang mga akusasyon ng pulis" (The police's accusations against Peralta are nonsense), De la Cruz said.

In 2001, he said, the RVG surrendered its cache of firearms to the NPA to maintain peace with the latter.

## Up in arms again

Shortly after, and as a matter of defense, the RVG took up arms again when the NPA killed one of its leaders.

The RVG, De la Cruz said, was integrated into the RPA-ABB in 2002 because it "never violated any basic principles of

the revolutionary struggle."

## Politician behind capture

"Contrary to the police claims, the RVG went after drug lords, illegal loggers and hired guns," he said.

He believed Peralta's capture was the handiwork of a Nueva Ecija politician who lost during the May 10 elections.

De la Cruz said the RVG refused to take part in the politician's plan to "subvert the electoral results" in the 2001 polls. This politician, he said, was known for his "warlord" reputation.

Peralta's arrest, he said, was a "grave violation" of the peace agreement between the RPA-ABB and the government.

# Ombudsman wants boy, girl scouts to check AFP corruption

From page A1

monitor deliveries of goods to the Armed Forces of the Philippines, while the Commission on Audit hopes that the kids can also monitor the public bidding in graft-ridden agencies in lieu of COA resident auditors.

Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo is so impressed by the system initiated by boy scouts and girl scouts in checking ghost deliveries in the Department of Education (DepEd) that he wants to adopt it for the AFP.

"What is happening at DepEd inspires me," Marcelo said yesterday at an anti-corruption summit sponsored by the United Nations Development Program. "These are children, but they (have shown) that they can do something about it (corruption). Maybe this would inspire the old... that it is possible."

The Ombudsman is set to meet with officials of the AFP and the Department of National Defense to discuss the project. Once agreed upon, the antigraft body would look for re-

cruits from schools closest to military barracks, and train them for the task.

If all goes well, the project could start in February, Marcelo said.

"We will ask (Defense) Secretary (Avelino) Cruz to have the same arrangement (as DepEd). If the military has a delivery, the supplier must let the private monitor (students) know about it, so that the latter can check if the delivery is accurate and the supplies are in good quality."

## Ateneo-based G-Watch

G-Watch, an Ateneo-based group that specializes in the monitoring of procurement, has organized the project that Marcelo was referring to. The project requires DepEd and its suppliers to notify the scouts about an impending delivery of textbooks.

The scouts wait at the school on the scheduled day of delivery. They check the number of books and their physical quality. Older scouts then accomplish the section provided for in the Inspection

and Acceptance Receipt for third-party monitors.

They sign the form if everything is in order, and make a report to the provincial coordinator and to DepEd via text messaging.

What makes it effective is that DepEd does not pay the supplier unless there is a certification from the scouts that the textbooks have been delivered, their number accurate, and their quality as-sured.

The project, started only this year, has so far been quite effective, according to Marcelo.

"These children... They are able to do something very effective in curbing corruption at DepEd," he said.

In contrast to adults who just keep on talking about corruption, the children were showing what is to be done, Marcelo said.

Haydee Yorac, chair of the Presidential Commission on Good Government, has referred to this Filipino trait as the "tendency to talk an issue to death."

Marcelo believes the soldiers would

not dare intimidate the children.

"How could they? They would be ashamed to do that. These are like their children already," he said, adding that the majority of soldiers, who are good, would not allow such an intimidation to take place.

## Ghost deliveries stopped

Audit Commissioner Emmanuel M. Dalman said the scouts were able to stop "ghost deliveries" at DepEd.

"They even returned two weeks after the delivery of the books to schools to ensure that these were not returned to the suppliers," he said.

He said it would be better if non-government organizations would sponsor the bidding, procurement and delivery of goods.

"If they are that daring to commit graft in the presence of these people, they can easily be detected," he said.

## Debt of gratitude

Dalman acknowledged that some COA resident auditors may have been

corrupted by officials in offices notorious for graft, including the AFP.

"I'm even suggesting that the COA auditor be withdrawn physically from the military. They should be made to hold offices right there in our central office," Dalman said.

He made the remark when asked whether COA was investigating the resident auditor assigned to the AFP when Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia was the comptroller.

He said pulling out COA personnel from the AFP would prevent them from having "utang na loob" (debt of gratitude) to military officials.

## Temptations

"If you assign them to offices where corruption is rampant, naturally they will be given posh offices, cars and given money to go on vacation in the US. You'll be open to all these temptations," Dalman said.

He said auditors no longer need to hold office in corrupt agencies because they were only doing "post audit" work.

## THE DAILY GOSPEL



Thursday, October 28, 2004

Simon and Jude, Apostles

1st Reading: Eph 2:19-22. Gospel: Lk 6:12-16.

Jesus went out into the hills to pray, spending the whole night in prayer with God. When day came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them whom he called apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, James and John; Philip and Bartholomew; Matthew and Thomas; James son of Alpheus and Simon called the Zealot; Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who would be the traitor.

**Commentary**  
These could be the patrons of all anonymous people. Both of them have difficulty even in getting their names remembered! Simon is chiefly known as not Simon Peter! The gospel writers themselves call him by different names: Luke calls him "Simon the Zealot," Matthew and Mark call him "Simon the Canaanite." Nothing more than that is recorded of him! It's a slim CV! His companion Jude is likewise almost anonymous. There is difficulty about his name too: John calls him "Judas—not the Iscariot!" Luke calls him "Jude the brother of James," Matthew calls him "Thaddeus." Nothing is said of him in any of the gospels except that he asked a question, "Lord, what is all this about?" (Jn. 14:22). The rest is silence. A New Testament letter bears his name, but scholars think it extremely unlikely that he wrote it.

Their egos left no trace—like the flight of birds in the sky. They are the patrons of the vast majority of all the Christians who have ever lived. There is a lot to be said for silence and anonymity: they can give depth. Without Simon and Jude the New Testament would be poorer; it would be all light and little shade. We might not so easily see ourselves in it.

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## SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES



**CRIMINAL LAW (PERSONS CRIMINALLY LIABLE)**—Principals by direct participation—Two or more persons taking part in the commission of a crime are considered principals by direct participation if the following requisites are present: 1. they participated in the criminal resolution and 2. they carried out their plan and personally took part in its execution by acts which directly tended to the same end. Both requisites were met in this case. Two or more persons are said to have participated in the criminal resolution when they were in conspiracy at the time of the commission of the crime. To establish conspiracy, it is not essential that there be proof of the previous agreement and decision to commit the crime, it being sufficient that the malefactors acted in concert pursuant to the same objective. The prosecution was able to prove appellant's participation in the criminal resolve by his own admission. [Citations omitted.] [En Banc, Justice Corona, People vs. Dacilio, G.R. No. 149368, April 14, 2004]

BY R. B. VERA

## RP pulling all stops to keep Pinoys out of Iraq

By TJ Burgonio

FOREIGN Secretary Alberto Romulo yesterday said he would exhaust all diplomatic means to convince Iraq's neighboring countries to stay the ban on foreigners crossing their borders into the war-torn state.

Romulo had dispatched Ambassador Roy Cimatu to the Middle East to appeal to the Kuwaiti government to reconsider its Oct. 20 decision to lift the ban on border-crossing, which he said would imperil the safety of Filipino workers.

The Secretary said that he would personally call on ambassadors of Iraq's neighbors, like Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and even Kuwait, to convince them to maintain the ban a little longer until after the Iraqi people vote in

general elections in late January.

"I'm going to call on other ambassadors around Iraq to talk to them... to persuade them to give us this period that once election is held in Iraq, we can revisit it," he told reporters in an ambush interview in Makati City.

"I am confident that once people elect their government in Iraq, then there will be more stability," he added.

Romulo hinted that lifting the ban on border-crossing now was ill-advised because of the volatile situation in Baghdad and other parts of the country.

"We have to be cautious and careful. All we have to do is read the papers, all we have to do is listen to BBC, CNN, all the news outlets. We can see that it's fluid; it's not that safe," he said.

## Reyes: What you see is what you get

By Gil Cabacungan Jr.

"I AM what I am."

This is Interior and Local Government Secretary Angelo Reyes' blunt reply to lawmakers who decried the former military chief's arrogant behavior in a congressional hearing on corruption in the military Monday.

"What you see is what you get. If I am offensive to some people by my way of speaking and by my way of answering statements, then that's just the way I am," said Reyes in a brief interview with reporters at the Presidential Security Group office in Malacañang.

Reyes had resented being dragged into the hidden wealth investigation on Maj. Gen. Car-

los Garcia and he did not hide this when Representatives Roilo Golez and Imee Marcos tried to pry deeper into his assets. Reyes blew his top when the lawmakers demanded that his 94-year-old mother (whom Reyes has a joint bank account containing P4 million) furnish her financial statement to the House committee on national defense and banks.

Reyes appeared to be taking in stride accusations that he was "being arrogant for delivering some curt or overly aggressive statements during the hearing."

"For those people who know me that is my way of talking when I am asked questions. I'm always emphatic, I'm always direct to the point. I have no intention of being overly aggressive or being disrespectful to hearing body or any body specifically. I was there in the spirit of cooperation," said Reyes who denied making any threats to the lawmakers after his appearance.

"I'm not in the business of trying to threaten or make enemies with anybody."

Reyes did not betray any sign of concern that his actions in the House committee hearing would impact negatively on his affirmation by the Commission on Appointments.

"What happens will happen," Reyes said.



REYES

largely unproductive and the sooner we get over this personality-oriented personal-based differences the better for everybody," Reyes said. "The treatment of personal feuds and differences should be out of the scene. Trabaho lang."

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# A6 Mathays ordered arrested for estafa

By Marion Ramos  
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

IMUS, Cavite—For allegedly falsifying a land title in a spurious land deal almost 12 years ago, former Quezon City mayor Ismael "Mel" Mathay Jr. and two members of his family have been ordered arrested by the Regional Trial Court of Trece Martires City.

According to documents obtained by the Inquirer, Judge Aurelio Icasiano issued on Sept. 21 separate warrants of arrest for Mathay, his wife Sonia, and son Ismael III, or "Chuck," a former Quezon City congressman.

The arrest order stemmed from a criminal complaint for estafa filed by real estate company Solar Resources Inc. (SRI), owned by movie producer William Tieng, involving the sale of a 17.5-hectare lot worth more than P22 million.

The lot, located at the Sta. Cruz de Malabon estate in Trece Martires City, was said to be covered by a "judicially declared void and spurious certificate of land transfer."

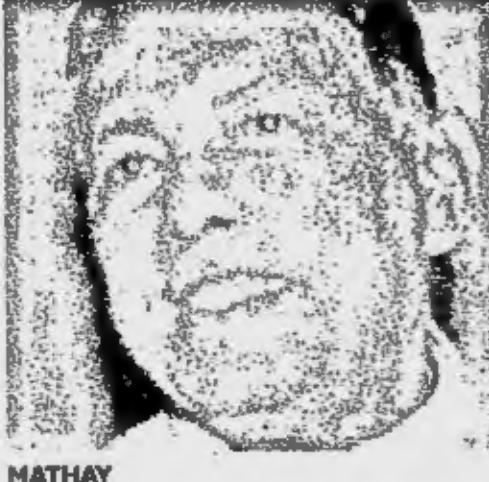
Contacted by the Inquirer, the senior Mathay yesterday expressed surprise over the arrest order against him.

In a telephone interview, he said he knew no reason why he or any member of his family would be ordered arrested.

"As far as I am concerned, all legal [issues] against the Mathays in Cavite have been settled. Maybe that is Sonia's transaction," he said.

He said he would issue a statement once he is furnished a copy of the warrant of arrest.

A provincial official, who asked not to be



MATHAY

named, said the Mathays have remained at large as the court has yet to release copies of the warrants "for unknown reasons."

But copies of the warrants obtained by the Inquirer indicated that the court had furnished copies to the National Bureau of Investigation, the Cavite provincial police and the San Juan police station.

In the documents, Sonia's and Chuck's addresses were listed as No. 2 Van Buren St., North Greenhills, San Juan, while the former mayor's address was listed as Chalram House, Salcedo Village, Makati City.

The complaint, filed by SRI president Roy Calleja on July 10, 2003, claimed that Mel Mathay executed a special power of attorney dated Aug. 12, 1992, for his wife, Sonia, to sell the lot, which was covered by TCT 113047.

Calleja said Sonia then offered to sell the property, with a total land area of 174,987 sq. m., to their company.

In December 1993, SRI paid P22,157,260 for the entire lot.

A check with the Cavite Registry of Deeds, however, showed that the land title which the Mathays gave the SRI was bogus as it "emanated" from another fake land certificate covered by TCT 111070, supposedly owned by Pedro Banayo and Pablo Pugay.

Both the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court have ruled that the land title was fake.

Calleja said in his complaint that the titles supposedly belonging to the Mathays, Banayo and Pugay were "fictitious, spurious and void as they have no lawful source of origin."

The company later found that the real owners of the lot were Teodolo and Sylvia Atangan; Agustina and Amor Poblete; and Eduardo and Felicisima Tirona.

During the negotiations for the sale of the lot, Calleja said the Mathays misrepresented themselves as being in physical possession of the property by introducing "an unidentified person as their caretaker (who) turned out to be a hoax."

Calleja said the company had repeatedly demanded, both in verbal and written form, that the Mathays return the money without success.

The prosecutor initially dismissed the complaint on the grounds that the Trece Martires court did not have jurisdiction. But the Department of Justice ruled on appeal on Aug. 27 that it had jurisdiction and directed the prosecutor to file a case of estafa against the Mathays. With a report from Nelson Flores

## CA asked to reject bid to stop Cavite land deal

CAVITE Gov. Ireneo Maliks asked the Court of Appeals to junk the petition of Vice Gov. Juanito Victor Remulla to stop a compromise agreement between the provincial government and the owners of a 26-hectare property in Trece Martires City which is at the center of a 22-year-old expropriation dispute.

Maliks asked the appellate court to dismiss Remulla's petition, claiming that the vice governor actively participated during the provincial council's deliberations that led to the approval of the agreement.

Maliks said Remulla also had no legal standing to question the agreement as he was not a party to it.

"Politics has again reared its ugly head in this case... It is curious why he is now feigning ignorance as if somebody of great moral ascendancy has convinced him to change his mind," Maliks said.

The appellate court earlier issued a temporary restraining order against the compromise agreement following Remulla's petition

claiming that the compromise was disadvantageous to the province.

The TRO stopped the compromised agreement that Maliks entered into with Sonia Mathay, the wife of former Quezon City mayor Ismael Mathay Jr. and Eleuterio Pascual on Feb. 27, 2004. It was approved by the Trece Martires City court on March 18.

Under its terms, the province agrees to return more than 19 hectares of the disputed land to its owners.

The provincial government expropriated the 26-hectare property in 1982 and has since developed it, constructing a sports complex, a forest park, a cemetery and resorted squatters on the site.

Mathay and Pascual, who claimed to have bought the land from original owner Marietta de Villa, pursued the suit that De Villa had started against the expropriation.

Mathay and Pascual also sought to nullify the donation in 1957 of 13 hectares by the De Villa family to the province of Cavite. Philip C. Tubesa

## NBI has nothing on Erap, says prober

THE NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation found nothing that would link the alleged misappropriation of P170 million in excise tax funds in 2000 to then President Joseph Estrada and his friend Charlie Ang because its investigation failed to reach the two persons.

NBI regional director Carlos Saunar, the head of the NBI anticorruption division that investigated Singson's allegations against the then President and his associates in 2000, yesterday told the Sandiganbayan that his division's investigation deemed it unnecessary to look into the alleged involvement of Estrada and Ang.

This developed as the prosecution panel tried to impress on the court, through Saunar's cross-examination, that instead of investigating the subjects of the corruption expose, the NBI investigated the culpability of "whistle-blower" Singson.

"We didn't reach that level," said defense witness Saunar during his cross examination by special prosecutor Dennis Villa-Ignacio in the ongoing plunder trial against the former President, Ang and several others.

Saunar, who has since been reassigned from the NBI central office in Manila to its field offices in Iloilo City and Zamboanga City, had earlier testified that there was nothing that would link Estrada and Ang to the alleged misuse of tobacco tax revenues.

The defense witness admitted that their investigation had to include a probe of the "whistle-blower" Singson. The NBI investigation of the Ilocos Sur governor showed that Singson was the one responsible for the alleged malversation of the P170 million in excise tax proceeds.

"We also have to investigate the complainant in this case," Saunar said referring to Singson who charged in October 2000 that Estrada and Ang helped themselves to the proceeds of the tobacco excise.

Villa-Ignacio confronted Saunar with a memorandum from then Justice Secretary Artemio Tuquero that tasked the NBI's anticorruption division to investigate Singson after he made the allegations against Estrada and Ang.

"What we established was there was an expose made by (Singson) against (Estrada and Atong Ang), and that the (Department of Justice) chose to investigate not the allegations but the whistleblower," Villa-Ignacio said.

The cross-examination further showed that the NBI investigation produced three reports on the matter with the last one recommending the filing of graft charges against Singson and several other officials of the Ilocos Sur provincial government.

## MELISSAWATCH LAUNCHING

# SC, new law strike blow for battered women, kids

By Margaux C. Ortiz



MELISSA MERCADO-MARTEL

FILIPINO women scored a victory yesterday with the Supreme Court's launching of the implementing rules and regulations of the Republic Act 9262 or "Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004," according to Social Welfare Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman.

The antiviolence against women and children act, which was signed into law last March, can now be used and implemented in full force because there are guidelines, Soliman said during the launch of "MelissaWatch," a movement organized by friends and supporters of Melissa Mercado-Martel.

Melissa had filed frustrated patricide charges against her husband and mall scion Robert Puyat-Martel after he shot her in their Makati home late last year.

"We would make it our advocacy to inform women all over the country regarding the important provisions of the law and where they could go in case they need help," Soliman said.

Melissa's lawyer, Rowena Guanzon, said that if her client's case is "not addressed immediately, it could affect thousands of battered women nationwide."

"If Melissa, who has the education and financial resources, is experiencing difficulty with her case, what more the poor women all over the country?" Guanzon stressed.

Guanzon said that a lot of problems they encountered were "due to the law's novelty."

"Many of the court personnel and even the executive judges were not aware of the law," Guanzon said. "On a scale of one to ten, we are giving the court personnel a rate of one in terms of awareness."

Guanzon said the objectives of the case would be to provide immediate relief and protection for victims including a stay-away order for the respondent and his removal from their residence regardless of ownership.

The lawyer added that the victim

would also be entitled to support from the offender and custody of the

minor children.

The law does not cover only husbands, but also covers live-in partners, boyfriends, dating partners, and women with whom the victims had lesbian relationships.

"We are grateful that the SC has now come up with the rules for the courts to follow," Guanzon said.

Melissa said that the law would enable Filipino women to live without fear.

"The pain I'm going through now is far worse than the pain I had to endure when my husband shot me," Melissa said.

She added quietly, "My husband is using people close to my heart against me."

Melissa said she and her lawyers would be accompanying the Department of Social Welfare and Development to speak before women all over the country regarding the new law and her crusade against violence.

Soliman said the DSWD with the Congressional Spouses Foundation have helped around 3,000 abused women in 13 havens nationwide in the first semester of 2004 alone.

"We have helped 6,000 women in our Alabang center alone," Soliman said, adding that they have identified poverty-stricken areas where high incidents of violence against women take place.

Women who need assistance could call MelissaWatch at 635-2307 and 0917-5034264.

## Palace declares end of Ramadan a public holiday

MALACANANG has declared Nov. 15 a special non-working day throughout the country in observance of the Eid ul-Fitr or the Feast of Ramadan.

In Proclamation No. 721, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said the declaration was made to "bring the religious and cultural significance of the Feast of Ramadan to the fore of national consciousness."

Ermita also noted the importance of promoting cultural understanding and integration by providing the "entire Filipino nation the full opportunity to join our Muslim brothers and sisters in observing and celebrating this important day."

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# Was it the chauffeur or the papaitan?

We've never figured it out really what worked better in the end, but we're thankful anyway.

Mrs. Gwen Roces had always been accompanied by her husband to the bank. He'd open the door for her, see her through, explain what the forms were for, tell her where to sign. And she'd always be listening cheerfully, her pen flashing in compliance. She was glad; we guessed, to have someone sorting out all the forms and procedures for her.

But the day came when Mr. Roces, quite regrettably, passed away. And our account with his wife appeared doomed to follow in his footsteps as well.

Until we remembered that she had never, in all her years with us, come to the bank by herself. It was always an

adventure she embarked upon with her husband. And something we couldn't expect her to do alone.

So we arranged for a driver to pick her up at her house and bring her over. Smiling awkwardly, she stepped into the car. And just as awkwardly, we stepped into the role long reserved for her husband.

Smile by smile, we navigated the course of her transactions with her. And told her that if she wanted, we could keep on doing the same thing for her every time she needed to visit the bank. Her smile was all the yes we needed.

We took her to lunch, too, that day. To a place that, to our knowledge, served the best papaitan in Manila

(we had learned earlier that it was, strangely enough, her favorite dish). She talked about how she was coping with the loss of her husband, about how the house seemed too big now, about how helpful people had been to her. And how the papaitan fell somehow short of its billing.

We had the driver bring her back home and we heard nothing from Mrs. Roces for the next two weeks. And then she called, asking to be picked up. She had some deposits to make, she said. And a newly cooked pot full of what was truly, as we discovered, the best papaitan in Manila.

*(If this doesn't sound like the kind of relationship you have with your bank, you may want to give us a try.)*



# Businessmen tell GMA: More economics, less politics

**BUSINESSMEN** want President Macapagal-Arroyo to start acting more like an economist than a politician as her government tries to avoid a looming Argentina-style fiscal crisis, the head of a prestigious business school said yesterday.

Former finance secretary Roberto de Ocampo, president of the Asian Institute for Management, remarked that "there has been more political maneuvering

than actual economic measures," even though Ms Arroyo is a US-trained economist.

"People in the business community are really waiting for her to display a higher percentage of being an economist rather than... being a politician," De Ocampo told the Foreign Correspondents Association.

He cited her populist decision in 2002 to cut power rates—a move that caused the state-run

National Power Corp. to incur huge losses, contributing to the worsening fiscal situation.

#### Whip-cracking

Ms Arroyo would have to do some "resolute non-political whip cracking" to implement measures that would boost revenues, shrink the budget deficit and attract foreign investment to convince the business community, De Ocampo said.

Concern over the fiscal crisis had changed the country's mood so that "a strong call to minimize politics from the leadership... would be heeded" as long as the President sets an example, he said.

#### Downdgrade in 2 months

Ms Arroyo has been pushing for the passage of eight revenue measures to avert the fiscal crisis but only four are likely to be

passed before year-end, Congress leaders say.

De Ocampo warned that international credit rating agencies could give the Philippines a downgrade in two months if they do not see proof that the government is taking the necessary measures.

"She will have to do something convincing," he said.

Despite the problems, De Ocampo said Ms Arroyo still had "an ex-

cellent chance," since her allies controlled both houses of Congress.

He warned that more revenue measures had to be passed, not just to shrink the deficit but to raise enough money to pay for much-needed infrastructure.

Ms Arroyo said earlier this week that the country had to swallow a "bitter pill" of economic reforms even if this resulted in a fall in her popularity. **APP**

## Palace announces breakthrough on 'sin tax' bills

From page A1

means committee, said in a statement that the bill could still be amended at the plenary sessions in the House.

In Ms Arroyo's compromise offer, the sin tax would be hiked by 12 percent and 40 centavos starting next year and by 3 percent from 2006 to 2010.

The compromise addresses the concerns of both Fortune Tobacco, which wants the tax hike in percentage to protect its low priced brands, and Philip Morris, which is pushing for an across-the-board flat rate increase that favors its premium priced brands.

The compromise formula would add P4.5 billion in new cigarette taxes in 2005, or slightly lower than the P5.7 billion in additional revenue expected from the 30-percent tax hike wanted by the Department of Finance.

The compromise formula is better than the P3.8 billion expected from the 20-percent increase proposed at the emerging version in

revenues and avert economic collapse.

#### Discrimination

While supporting the proposed law on principle, the commercial director of BAT in the country, Dennis Belgira, said the emerging version of the legislation would perpetuate "the existing discrimination" against newer players like his company.

The House of Representatives

bill "allows the existing un-level playing field to continue by classifying existing brands based on 1 October 1996 prices, whilst classifying new brands based on their current prices."

He warned that this provision was against non-discrimination provisions of international trade agreements.

#### Vital point

"We sincerely hope that this vital

point will be considered in finalizing the bill in the bicameral committee" made up of House and Senate representatives, Belgira said.

Ms Arroyo met representatives of the tobacco lobby on Monday to call on them to accept higher taxes for the sake of the national interest.

Representatives of BAT, which has a small share of the local market for cigarettes, were not at the meeting, the company said. **APP**

pushing for higher sin taxes since 1997 but the strong lobby by the tobacco and alcohol industry has foiled its previous attempts to peg taxes to inflation.

#### Personal touch

"We have a working President who always goes out of her way to talk to the stakeholders to fast-track any measure she deems important and urgent," said Francis Chua, executive vice president of the Federation of Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

"Her management style generates more cooperation and respect rather than resistance and resentment."

Jesus Arranza, president of the Federation of Philippine Industries, said there was nothing wrong with the President meeting with captains of industry because other foreign leaders were doing this to expedite reforms.

Arranza said the President's personal touch was required in the passage of sin taxes because it was a matter of national interest.

## British tobacco firm bucks proposed tax

BRITISH American Tobacco cried foul yesterday over proposed excise taxes on tobacco and alcoholic products, which the global cigarette giant charged discriminated against smaller players in the domestic market.

The proposed law indexing excise taxes on these products for inflation is a centerpiece of President Macapagal-Arroyo's attempt to boost government

revenues and avert economic collapse.

#### Discrimination

While supporting the proposed law on principle, the commercial director of BAT in the country, Dennis Belgira, said the emerging version of the legislation would perpetuate "the existing discrimination" against newer players like his company.

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bill "allows the existing un-level playing field to continue by classifying existing brands based on 1 October 1996 prices, whilst classifying new brands based on their current prices."

He warned that this provision was against non-discrimination provisions of international trade agreements.

#### Vital point

"We sincerely hope that this vital

sures that would address the budget deficit and public sector deficit.

A downgrade will sharply raise the country's debt costs.

#### GMA lauded

The President's decision to meet personally with the executives of Fortune and Philip Morris (they control 90 percent of the to-

bacco industry) was lauded by some business leaders.

"The President is just being realistic. Her meeting with the top industry players will ensure smooth sailing for the 'sin' taxes," said Donald Dee, executive vice president of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The government has long been

## Bush-Kerry race deadlocked six days before US elections

From page A1

Pennsylvania—the three most important battlegrounds in the race for 270 Electoral College votes.

A Los Angeles Times survey joined a pile pointing to a national dead heat. Bush and Kerry were 48-48 in that poll.

With the possibility of another inconclusive election night looming, lawyers were already deep in courtroom entanglements in a variety of states over problems either anticipated or already experienced in states with heavy early voting.

#### Missing explosives

In one example, a federal judge in Miami ruled against Democrats in saying Florida election officials will not be required to process incomplete voter registration forms.

In his campaign sorties, Democratic challenger Kerry stressed that the United States was "in a bigger mess by the day," citing the murky fate of missing explosives in Iraq to sharpen the indictment of his Republican opponent.

On the other hand, Bush has put together an end game that includes persistent appeals for Democratic votes and a rarely used weapon in this bruising campaign—a positive commercial.

#### Spirit over substance

With their agendas laid out, Bush and Kerry are going for spirit over substance in the final days, trying to create an aura of excitement in get-out-the-vote rallies and snag the dwindling pool of voters who haven't taken sides.

Rockers Bruce Springsteen and Jon Bon Jovi were rejoining the Kerry campaign, minstrels in his fast-moving gallery. California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is bringing his star power—and moderate Republican reputation—to Bush's side later in the week.

Bush turned to the iconoclastic



THE SITTING President George W. Bush in Dubuque, Iowa; Kerry doesn't measure up to the great tradition of the Democratic Party and to likes of former US Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and John Kennedy.



THE CHALLENGER, Sen. John Kerry, in Las Vegas: We're in a bigger mess by the day and this president can't see or can't admit it, but either way, America is less safe.

Democratic Sen. Zell Miller of Georgia to introduce him Wednesday at Pennsylvania and Ohio events, in keeping with his late-breaking appeals to Democrats who aren't sold on their own party's nominee.

Bush has been talking up the "great tradition of the Democratic Party" citing the steeliness in crises shown by the likes of former US Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and John Kennedy, to make the point that Kerry doesn't measure up.

Kerry mentioned those presidents and more, saying great US leaders built alliances that protected this country while Bush "has failed in his fundamental obligation as commander in chief

to make America as safe and secure as we should be."

#### Closing arguments

The Democrat was focusing on economic troubles of the middle class in a Sioux City speech on Wednesday before stumping in Minnesota and back in Iowa, at a Cedar Rapids event. According to aides, Kerry planned to blend his campaign's economic and foreign policy proposals as his "closing arguments" for change.

After ripping Kerry for weeks as an equivocator, Bush planned to close the contest with a 60-second commercial meant to show he's steady, trustworthy and compassionate in these dangerous

times.

Aides said the ad included footage of an emotional president telling the Republican National Convention about meeting the children of slain US soldiers.

Even so, neither campaign was going upbeat, nor were their supporters.

Hard-hitting leaflets lined mailboxes in a dozen or so hotly contested states. A glossy mailing by the Pennsylvania Democratic State Committee showed burning roadside wreckage in Iraq, with US soldiers looking on, and the headline "Wrong Choices... Less Secure."

A Republican National Committee mailing showed pictures of Jane Fonda and Michael

Moore, two antiwar liberals supporting Kerry, and the headline, "John Kerry's heart and soul of America?"

#### Bigger mess

Kerry's latest ad accuses the Bush administration of failing to secure nearly 400 tons of explosives that disappeared from a military installation south of Baghdad around the time US forces were toppling Saddam Hussein's government, and he pressed the point at rallies on Tuesday.

Kerry said in Green Bay, Wisconsin, the explosives "could be in the hands of terrorists, used to attack our troops or our people."

Going beyond the known facts,

Kerry said later in Las Vegas that the explosives had actually been used against US troops.

"We're in a bigger mess by the day and this president can't see it or can't admit it, but either way, America is less safe," he said.

#### Armchair general

Vice President Dick Cheney, campaigning in Florida, called Kerry an "armchair general." "If our troops had not gone into Iraq as John Kerry apparently thinks they should not have, that is 400,000 tons of weapons and explosives that would be in the hands of Saddam Hussein, who would still be sitting in his palace instead of jail," he said. **AP**

## 'So moving to be with the children with very special needs'

From page A1

are unhappy children," Princess Caroline said, citing a famous quote in her speech in a symposium held at the Makati Shangri-La. The forum discussed Armade Philippines' proposal to the United Nations seeking to make "crimes against children crimes against humanity."

The princess is president of Armade Mondiale or World Association of Children's Friends, which her mother, the Hollywood icon Grace Kelly, founded in 1963.

"There is only one constant, the world's recognition that children are treasures," she said.

Armed Mondiale is a beneficiary of

ability that must be squarely addressed, whenever and wherever the crimes are committed... World nations must stand as one in protecting our children."

The forum was the last event on her three-day visit. She left Manila last night aboard an Air France flight.

#### Unfazed by stench

Yesterday, the royal also made her rounds of the Virlanie Foundation's shelter in Makati. She was accompanied by Virlanie founder Dominique Lemay and French Ambassador Renee Veyret.

Virlanie is a beneficiary of Armade Mondiale.

The princess walked through a

dark narrow alley in the congested slums in Barangay Singlanes, the entire time unfazed by the stench. She also went in to examine one of the shanties. By the time she left, mud had caked on the hem of her pants.

"Ate, ate nakita ka namin sa TV kagabi! (We saw you on TV last night)," screamed the young kids. The princess was all smiles, clueless of what the kids were saying. "Sino po ba aya? (Who's she?)?" curiously asked another girl.

The princess said it must be very difficult to live like that," Lemay said. "What if there's a fire?"

In one of the homes, she gamely sat a young girl on her lap, cooing and fussing over the girl. The

girl refused to let go of the princess' embrace. "What am I going to do with you now?" the princess asked in jest. She's herself a mother to four children.

When asked what her message was to the government and the Filipino people, the princess simply said, "I had met with the President so I think that's it."

#### Visits to Subic, Clark

On Tuesday, the royal visited children who had gotten sick from the toxic wastes left by the former US bases in Subic and Clark.

In her speech, she said she had personally asked US President George W. Bush for his "interven-

tion to expedite the necessary countermeasures to redress this critical and life-threatening situation and to provide much-needed humanitarian aid and compensation to the victims and their families."

Sadly, she was told that the Philippine government had agreed to free America of any legal obligations after the departure of the American military.

#### Moral concern

But the princess said "the issue of concern is not legal, but moral." To redress the pitiful conditions that our children find themselves in, she had personally asked US President George W. Bush for his "interven-

tion, if not as a matter of legal obligation then as the right and moral thing to do."

#### International crime

At the dinner fund-raiser on Monday, she said, "One of these days, street children will be an anomaly, incarcerating children will be taboo, and exposing them to hazardous conditions will be an international crime whose perpetrators will be punished."

Early Monday morning, she visited a decrepit shelter for vagrant families and a cramped detention center for youths in Manila. She later shared a simple lunch with wards of Virlanie at the Makati Coliseum.

# The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

## 'No order to search for explosives'

EVANSVILLE, Indiana—One of the first US military units to reach the Al-Qaqa military installation south of Baghdad after the invasion of Iraq did not have orders to search for the nearly 400 tons of explosives that are missing from the site, the unit spokesperson said Tuesday.

When troops from the 101st Airborne Division's 2nd Brigade arrived at the Al-Qaqa base a day or so after other coalition troops seized Baghdad on April 9, 2003, there were already looters throughout the facility, Lt. Col. Fred Wellman, deputy public affairs officer for the unit, said.

The soldiers "secured the area they were in and looked in a limited amount of bunkers to ensure chemical weapons were not present in their area," Wellman wrote in an e-mail message to The Associated Press. "Bombs were found but no chemical weapons in that immediate area."

"Orders were not given from higher to search or to secure the facility or to search for HE type munitions, as they (high-explosive weapons) were everywhere in Iraq," he wrote.

The 101st Airborne was apparently at least the second military unit to arrive at Al-Qaqa after the US-led invasion began. Pentagon spokesperson Bryan Whitman told The Washington Post that the 3rd Infantry Division reached the site around April 3, fought with Iraqi forces and occupied the site. They left after two days, headed to Baghdad, he told the newspaper for Wednesday's editions.

Associated Press Correspondent Chris Tomlinson, who was embedded with the 3rd Infantry but didn't go to Al-Qaqa, described the search of Iraqi military facilities south of Baghdad as brief, cursory missions to seek out hostile troops, not to inventory or secure weapons stockpiles. One task force, he said, searched four Iraqi military bases in a single day, meeting no resistance and finding only abandoned buildings, some containing weapons and ammunition.

The enormous size of the bases, the rapid pace of the advance on Baghdad and the limited number of troops involved, made it impossible for US commanders to allocate any soldiers to guard any of the facilities after making a check, Tomlinson said.

Pentagon officials could not be reached for

comment Wednesday night. A spokesperson for the 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Georgia, said the unit was checking on whether any of its troops was at Al-Qaqa.

The disappearance of the explosives was first reported in Monday's New York Times and has subsequently become a heated issue in the US presidential campaign, with Vice President Dick Cheney questioning on Tuesday whether

the explosives were still at the facility when US troops arrived. The Kerry campaign called the disappearance the latest in a "tragic series of blunders" by the Bush administration.

Two weeks ago, Iraq's Ministry of Science and Technology told the International Atomic Energy Agency that the explosives had

vanished from the former military installation as a result of "theft and looting... due to lack of security." The ministry's letter said the explosives were stolen sometime after coalition forces took control of Baghdad on April 9, 2003.

AP

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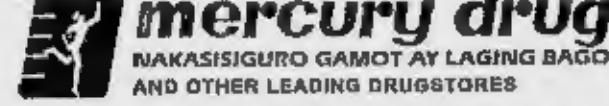
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# Japan won't withdraw troops from Iraq

TOKYO—Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi insisted on Wednesday that Japan would not withdraw its troops from Iraq despite a threat by a militant group to behead a Japanese hostage unless Tokyo pulled them out.

The crisis is a political challenge for Koizumi, who decided to send Japanese troops to Iraq despite strong public opposition.

"We cannot tolerate terrorism and we will not give in to terrorism," Koizumi told reporters.

"We will not withdraw the Self-

Defense Force (SDF)," he added, referring to the Japanese military.

The hostage taken in Iraq by a group led by al-Qaida ally Abu Musab al-Zarqawi had been identified as Shosei Koda, 24, of Fukuoka in southern Japan, government officials said. His family said he had been traveling abroad.

Al-Qaida Organization of Holy War in Iraq gave the Japanese government 48 hours to withdraw its troops from Iraq, "or this infidel will meet the same fate as Berg... and the other infidels," the group said,



KODA

In a reference to American Nick Berg, who was beheaded in May.

A video posted on a website often used by militants showed Koda, with long hair and a thin beard, seated in front of three masked men and a black banner bearing the group's name.

"They want the Japanese government and Prime Minister Koizumi to withdraw Japanese troops from Iraq or they will cut my head off," Koda said in English and then in Japanese.

"I am sorry. I want to go back

again to Japan," he added in Japanese.

As one militant read out a statement, another grabbed Koda by the hair and pulled his head up to face the camera.

Zarqawi's group is blamed for Iraq's bloodiest suicide bombings and hostage beheadings. Last week the Jordanian militant pledged allegiance to al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden.

Koda's family told public broadcaster NHK that Koda had gone abroad in January and started

a working holiday in New Zealand in July. They had not been told of his trip to Iraq.

"He didn't tell us. I guess he thought we'd oppose it," Koda's father told NHK.

Media reports said Koda was working at a hotel in Jordan and had told his colleagues that he wanted to go to Iraq.

"We are trying all we can to secure his release, through government channels and through Iraqis," Koizumi later told parliament.

Reuters

## Kerry, Bush: the battle of the Yale old boys

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut—Next week's US presidential election will be followed with more than usual interest in the corridors of Yale University, which counts both President George W. Bush and his Democratic challenger John Kerry among its alumni.

"The existence of a competition between two Yale men... is not going unnoticed by our undergraduates who would like to be political leaders in the future," said William Foltz, chair of the university's International Affairs Council.

"I don't detect much support for Mr. Bush on the campus," Foltz said.

One of the most prestigious academic institutions in the country with some 11,000 students, Yale has traditionally been seen as a Democrat-leaning school.

The university has produced four living US presidents: Gerald Ford, Bill Clinton, George

H.W. Bush and the current White House incumbent.

Yale Students for Bush chairman Robert Chung, said he would not be surprised if a majority of Yale voters cast their ballots for Kerry, although he took issue with the university's liberal image.

"The reason, I believe, that Yale is seen as a very liberal school is because the liberals are the most noisy group on campus," Chung said. "They attract a lot of attention."

Lowell Levin, a retired professor who taught at the university when Bush and Kerry were both students, identified the Democratic Senator from Massachusetts as the more typical Yale man.

"Kerry has a demeanor which is more sophisticated," Levin said.

"Bush tries hard to appeal to a different group by behaving and talking in a certain way and putting down literacy as an unimportant factor. He claims

he doesn't read newspapers... that kind of thing," he said.

Neither candidate harps on about his time at Yale, which along with other so-called Ivy League universities like Princeton and Harvard has an elitist image associated with blue-blooded New England families.

"He and I, we went to the same university. We are both very privileged," Kerry said in one rare reference. "He thinks it's entitlement."

Yale was founded in 1701 in New Haven, Connecticut, the current president's birthplace.

Bush graduated with a degree in history in 1968, while Kerry finished his studies in political science two years before.

At that time, female students were not yet admitted and foreign students were relatively few and far between. Today women account for half the student body.

It was also a period when campus societies were extremely popular including the secret "Skull and Bones" club, of which Bush and Kerry were both members.

While Bush was known more for his social activities, Kerry used Yale to take his first steps on the political ladder, becoming president of the Union debating club like many future politicians before him.

Bush joined the Yale chapter of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, whose current president Richard Shanor, said he was "very proud" to have a "brother" in the White House.

"This university brings out in people a political awareness that I don't think exists in a lot of universities," Shanor said.

Foltz agreed that Yale continued to view itself as a place that prepares people for leadership.

"If Yale tries to pretend that it's not an elite institution it looks foolish," Foltz said. "It really is. That's been constant. What has changed is the nature of the elite. It is much more cosmopolitan than it was before."

AFP

## Thai PM apologizes for deaths of 78 Muslims in custody

BO THONG, Thailand—Thailand's prime minister apologized Wednesday for the deaths of 78 Muslim detainees who were suffocated or crushed while crammed into army trucks after a riot, but insisted that his security forces were "soft" on the rioters.

Grieving relatives flocked to a military camp to claim the bodies, and outraged Islamic leaders warned the deaths could worsen sectarian violence in the Muslim-dominated south of predominantly Buddhist Thailand. More than 400 people have been killed this year in the revival of a long-simmering insurgency.

An Islamic opposition party in neighboring Malaysia—where Thai officials say some of the insurgents are based—denounced the crackdown in Thailand as a "holocaust."

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra said that "there were some mistakes," and that authorities lacked enough trucks to properly transport the 1,300 people arrested in Monday's riot in the southern province of Narathiwat because it was a public holiday.

Authorities had to "pile them up on top of each other, and they died," he said.

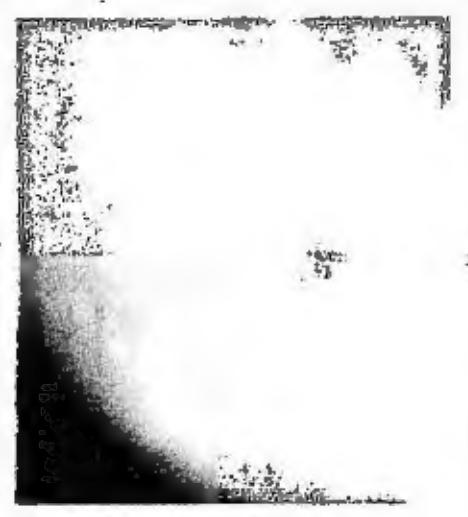
"We are sorry for that, sorry they met an untimely death," he told the Thai Senate, which had demanded an explanation for the deaths.

But Thaksin insisted the military had used "the soft approach," and that soldiers "did not fire a single round into the crowd... They fired into the air and used only clubs and rope to tie their hands—that's the normal practice for controlling mobs."

Gen. Sirchai Thunyasiri, commander of a task force on security in that region, said the military used only four trucks to transport more than 1,300 detainees, and that they spent more than six hours in the vehicles before arriving at an army camp in a neighboring province.

Thaksin and other Thai officials have sought to pin part of the blame for the deaths on the detainees' weakness due to dawn-to-dusk fasting during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, saying they died of dehydration or suffocation.

AP



### CLOSEST ENCOUNTER

This image taken Tuesday by the spacecraft Cassini is one of the closest ever of Saturn's hazy moon Titan. At its closest, Cassini was 1,200 km above the moon, 300 times closer than during its first flyby on July 3, 2004.

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## Prehistoric dwarf skeleton found on Pacific island

DENVER—In a breathtaking discovery, scientists working on a remote Indonesian island say they have uncovered the bones of a human dwarf species marooned for eons while modern man rapidly colonized the rest of the planet.

One tiny specimen, an adult female measuring about 91 cm tall, is described as "the most extreme" figure to be included in the extended human family. Certainly, she is the shortest.

This hobbit-sized creature appears to have lived as recently as 18,000 years ago on the island of Flores, a kind of tropical Lost World populated by giant lizards and miniature elephants.

She is the best example of a trove of fragmented bones that account for as many as seven of these primitive individuals. Scientists have named the new species *Homo floresiensis*, or Flores Man. The specimens' ages range from 95,000 to 12,000 years old.

"So the 18,000-year-old skeleton cannot be some kind of 'freak' that we just happened to stumble across," said one of the discoverers, radiocarbon dating expert Richard G. Roberts of the University of Wollongong in Australia.

Flores Man was hardly formidable. His grapefruit-sized brain was about a quarter the size of the brain of our species, *Homo sapiens*. It is closer in size with the brains of transitional prehuman species in Africa more than 3 million years ago.

Yet evidence suggests Flores Man made stone tools, lit fires and organized group hunts for meat.

"It is arguably the most significant discovery concerning our own genus in my lifetime," said anthropologist Bernard Wood of George Washington University, who reviewed the research independently.

Details of the discovery appear in Thursday's issue of the journal *Nature*.

Researchers from Australia and Indonesia found the partial skeleton 13 months ago in a shallow limestone cave known as Liang Bua. The cave, which extends into a hillside for about 40 meters, has been the subject of scientific analysis since 1964.

AP

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2004

**The WORLD**

A10

**Three Japan quake victims found after 4 days**

TOKYO—A woman and two young children buried for four days after a deadly earthquake in central Japan were pulled alive from the rubble Wednesday as another powerful temblor rocked the region.

A dozen rescue workers dug with shovels through rocks in Nagaoka, one of the cities most severely affected by the quake, to get into contact with the family trapped in their car.

"Specially trained rescuers sent from Tokyo have confirmed all of the three are alive," said Kazuhiko Noguchi, a local government spokesperson, "but either the mother or the girl needs to receive life-saving operations."

The 2-year-old boy was lifted into a helicopter hovering above and rushed to hospital, as national television broadcast the saga live.

Mother Takako Minagawa, 39, her daughter Mayu and her son Yuta were all in the car when it was buried by a landslide during the initial quake of 6.8 on the Richter scale Saturday.

At least 31 people have died since Saturday's initial tremor and from stress amid the hundreds of aftershocks.



**TWO-YEAR-OLD** Yuta Minagawa is rescued from a buried car in an earthquake-triggered landslide in Nagaoka, northern Japan. REUTERS

The tremor sent quake victims in shelters hurriedly lying down on the floor for their safety. About 86,000 people are still lodged in hundreds of shelters across Niigata province.

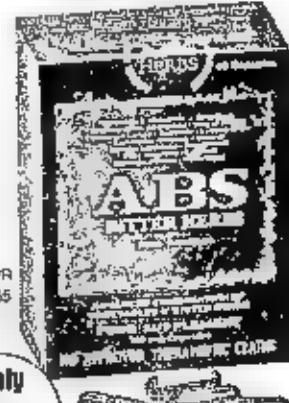
Public broadcaster NHK said some 20

people were injured in the latest tremor.

In Oyama city the hardest hit by the initial quake, an apartment building collapsed and damaged an adjacent clinic but two residents inside were rescued unharmed, a municipal

official said. The latest tremor also triggered at least one landslide and violently shook elevated rail tracks of Japan's bullet train—which was derailed for the first time in its 40-year history by Saturday's quake.

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## Royalty

**EDITORIALS** **I**f there is justice in this world, no Filipino children would be at the mercy of toxic wastes left at the former US military bases in Clark and Subic. If there is justice in this world, they would—like all children should—be happily at play and looking to a future brimming with hope. They would not be grievously ill, their bodies riddled by afflictions directly caused by the toxins still enveloping their homes, poisoning the water they drink and the very air they breathe. Quite simply, they would not be dead.

More than a decade after the US bases on Philippine soil were closed down in September 1991, toxic waste contamination remains an undiminished plague. Yet the cleanup long demanded of the United States by various groups is not tagged high priority in Philippine government projects. Nowhere is it mentioned in President Macapagal-Arroyo's 10-point agenda (unless "the development of Clark and Subic as the best international service and logistic centers in the region" includes it, although that's a bit of a stretch); it did not even merit lip service in her perfunctory speeches during the election campaign. Even otherwise attentive observers forget, momentarily riveted as they are by the increasingly difficult business of living, as well as by the scandals on unexplained wealth. Yet the problem continues to fester, like a boil slowly coming to a head.

On top of her commitments as president of Amade Mondiale (and true-blue member of royalty), Princess Caroline of Hanover has been requested to tell the world the story of the stricken Filipino children at the former US bases. As reported by the INQUIRER, the princess acknowledged the request of 7-year-old Michael Pili's grandmother Norma, who, in voicing it to the esteemed visitor on Tuesday, managed to convey the desperate nature of their existence. Michael is one of 500 children whose illnesses have been directly linked to toxic waste contamination. There are many others like them whose cases are undocumented; some have given up the ghost.

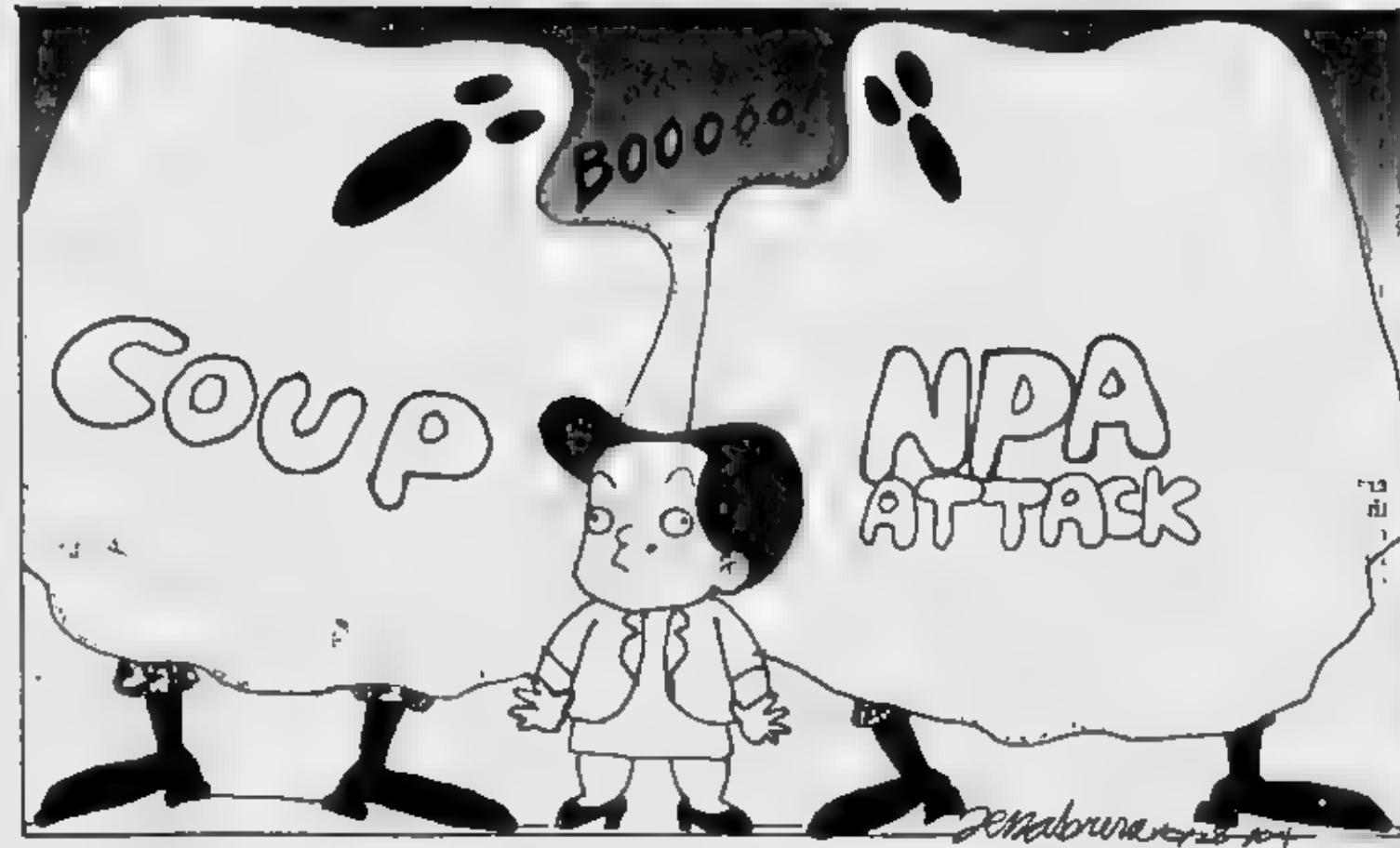
Michael's grandmother in effect conveyed that if her government could not, or would not, do something about him and others like him, perhaps Caroline of Hanover would. Not that the grandmother was grasping at straws in nursing that hope. By accounts, the princess is of a different mold and does not belong to the category of the merely decorative. She had written US President George W. Bush as early as 2002, seeking the cleanup of the former American bases as well as compensation for the victims of toxic waste contamination. And Amade, along with the Philippines' Alliance of the Bases Cleanup, has brought the issue to the United Nations. (Compare this with the slow action of the Philippine government, which did not even have the spine to push the cleanup as a fair exchange for its swift, unequivocal support for the US-led "war on terror" and subsequent invasion of Iraq.)

## Class

**C**LASS is as class does. Princess Caroline's brief stay in the Philippines to visit and raise funds for the facilities of the Virlanie Foundation Inc. is remarkable for its being low-key—in more ways than one. In her visits to shelters for single mothers, street children and other minors involved in crime or victims of abuse, or the Madapdap resettlement site in Mabalacat, Pampanga, she was noteworthy for a simplicity of appearance and manner. (On television, a 14-year-old victim of rape who had, with others like herself, just sung for the princess, said she was moved to tears by the latter's quiet, appreciative presence. It was as though, the girl said, not without a tinge of wonder, Caroline understood her plight.)

This simplicity, at once both elegant and intense, imbues in the princess a certain power and makes of her a worthy president of Amade Mondiale, otherwise known as the World Association of Children's Friends. She commands attention because of it, and thus effectively serves to focus attention on the state of some of the unfortunate children on the planet, and what prosperous countries and sectors can do to help.

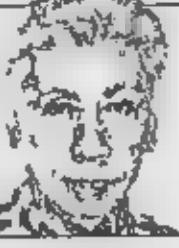
Caroline of Hanover calls to mind what Daniel Barenboim wrote of the late literary critic and activist Edward Said, who, he said, had a "musician's soul" and "knew quite well that in music, force is not power, something that many of the world's political leaders do not perceive." Long may her star shine.



## Generals in ASEAN's 'laggard'

### VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado



times those for Singapore, Brunei, Malaysia and Thailand.

Filipinos do not have as much access to essential drugs as citizens in Singapore, Brunei and Malaysia. But they're better off than Cambodia and Myanmar."

Wedged in the middle among 10 ASEAN countries, "we are now about *kulakiat* among the original five, although we're still generally ahead of the 'Plus Five': Myanmar, Brunei, Lao PDR, Cambodia and Vietnam."

Poor economic performance partly explains the lag. Food production per capita was fifth lowest, gross domestic product growth fourth lowest in 2002. We had the highest unemployment rate among seven countries at century's turn.

All countries except for Myanmar (no data) were in fiscal imbalance in 2002. But Brunei, Singapore and Thailand got out of the red in 2003.

Here, "out of every P100 we generated through exports, P17 went to payment of our debt." That's significantly higher than everybody except Thailand.

The number of personal computers here was fifth highest: 3 per 100 population. But that's way below 62 for Singapore, 15 for Malaysia and 8 for Brunei.

Ranked sixth most attractive tourist destination, the Philippines attracts less than two million tourists. Compare that with Malaysia's 10.6 million or Thailand's 10.1 million or even Vietnam's 2.4 million.

"We're in bad shape," Virola reminds all. "And we'll be worse off, hit by the ravages of global competition, statistics on our preparedness for fierce competition tell us."

A coup d'état would only embed these problems—and the four-point formula for economic jackpots for a few corrupt officers, we add.

The future is collective responsibility for citizen and soldier. "There is hope," Virola insists. The alternative is to wobble into ASEAN's basket case.

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## Horror story

### THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros



Innocent or believe in something to suspend disbelief in a horror movie. You can't be scared as hell by hellish creatures or supernatural forces if you've become cynical or angry. The 1960s generation may not have been completely cynical, but it was angry. It was angry at many things, not least the Vietnam War, which became the other word for atrocity. You can't have a horror movie more horrifying than the one titled "My Lai." That massacre gave a face to horror to a whole generation.

We've been holdouts in the horror department, our movies continuing to mine the unearthly or uncanny long after Hollywood ceased to do so. But I don't know that they continue to gather big audiences, or still cause them to be deliciously frightened the way they did us long ago. The genre, of course, has gotten a new lease on life with the Asian horror genre spawned by "The Ring." I understand "Feng Shui," which has been quite successful dips into that pool.

Why do horror movies continue to exert a fascination on us? Maybe the anthropologists have a point when they say our belief in the magical and fantastic, the supernaturally sublime and horrifying, heroes and awangs, is our way of projecting our fears into the world and resolving them through bravery and incantation. Maybe it's true, aswang sightings and horror movies flourish in periods of horrendous want and dire economic dislocation, enabling or persuading us to believe that however fearful our enemies are, we will vanquish them in the end. With hunger becoming more prevalent and a financial collapse waiting in the wings, maybe we'll dwell more and more on these as forms of escape in months to come. I recall that Imelda became more and more supernaturally inclined, or blamed the country's woes on unearthly causes, during the twilight of her and her husband's rule.

But that may be the most horrifying thing of all, our inability or unwillingness to see the real horrors creeping upon us in this cobwebbed land. We may yet see the greatest horror movie of all. In life.

I WONDER why we don't have too many *aswang* sightings these days. There was one a couple of years ago, somewhere up north, I think. I saw it in one of the news programs, an oddity or comic relief item, though it probably didn't seem odd or comic to the people who were afflicted by the *aswang*, or thought they were. The story was amplified in "Magandang Gabi, Bayan" not long afterward.

As the story went, some villagers were alerted to the presence of the unholy creature by an unholy smell spreading into the village. And by the fact that the newly born babies in the place, of which there were plentiful, were in a constant state of agitation at night. They were certain the stench did not originate from a fetid river nearby and the babies' cries from mother's milk gone dry. Unfortunately, the villagers never captured or killed the *aswang*. They caught sight of it on several occasions and with the aid of torches and flashlights gave chase, but it was too fast for them and disappeared in a flash in the moonless haze above the thatched roofs.

Anthropologists, of course, have an explanation for it. *Aswangs* have a way of materializing in times of want. It's people's way of coping. They project their fears to the outside world, in the form of unholy creatures, which despite their fearful countenance (the local comic books had a way of drawing them that scared the wits out me as a kid) were capable of being destroyed. Not so poverty.

Maybe so. But anthropologists themselves, particularly in the God-forsaken places of this country, of which there are plentiful too, have been known to glance behind them on a dark and lonely road in the witching hour.

Well, in lieu of *aswang* sightings, we do have a plethora of horror movies invading cable TV and, even scarier, feel Halloween invading the hotels and restaurants. I don't know though that the movies, local or foreign, still manage to give people the kind of fright appropriate to All Saints' Day, or more aptly All Souls' Day.

When I was a kid, the two popular movie genres were Westerns and horror movies. The

Westerns thrilled and the horror movies chilled. Indeed, it wasn't just horror movies that were popular then, horror comics and horror-radio programs were so, too. By far, the scariest were the horror radio programs, the "Gabinng Lagum" types that featured some pretty awesome voice talents. What made the radio horror stories more terrifying than the movies was that it relied on the power of suggestion. What is scarier than what you see is what you don't see. Doors creaking, wings flapping, wild noises in the night—all these, or the simulation of them, terrified more than the sight of nocturnal denizens creeping up on the hero and heroine in the movies.

Both the Westerns and the horror movies eventually died for various reasons. The Western died in a blazing gunfight with realism in the 1960s, realism ending up the faster draw. The Western was based on a heroic code not unlike that of the Japanese samurai movies, proof of which being that one of the most successful Westerns of all, which spawned no end of sequels, was "The Magnificent Seven," which came off Akira Kurosawa's "The Seven Samurai." To this day, Japan, which still clings in great part to tradition, continues to make samurai movies, though increasingly in anime form. Hollywood no longer does Westerns, or makes a whole industry of them. The inspiration is gone.

Horror movies, too, have suffered a tremendous decline, from the glory and gory Hammer days of the 1960s to the gory but not so glory days of zombie movies. I don't know what the reasons for it are. I suspect realism, too, had a great deal to do with it. You've got to be a little

innocent or believe in something to suspend disbelief in a horror movie. You can't be scared as hell by hellish creatures or supernatural forces if you've become cynical or angry. The 1960s generation may not have been completely cynical, but it was angry. It was angry at many things, not least the Vietnam War, which became the other word for atrocity. You can't have a horror movie more horrifying than the one titled "My Lai." That massacre gave a face to horror to a whole generation.

We've been holdouts in the horror department, our movies continuing to mine the unearthly or uncanny long after Hollywood ceased to do so. But I don't know that they continue to gather big audiences, or still cause them to be deliciously frightened the way they did us long ago. The genre, of course, has gotten a new lease on life with the Asian horror genre spawned by "The Ring." I understand "Feng Shui," which has been quite successful dips into that pool.

Why do horror movies continue to exert a fascination on us? Maybe the anthropologists have a point when they say our belief in the magical and fantastic, the supernaturally sublime and horrifying, heroes and awangs, is our way of projecting our fears into the world and resolving them through bravery and incantation. Maybe it's true, aswang sightings and horror movies flourish in periods of horrendous want and dire economic dislocation, enabling or persuading us to believe that however fearful our enemies are, we will vanquish them in the end. With hunger becoming more prevalent and a financial collapse waiting in the wings, maybe we'll dwell more and more on these as forms of escape in months to come. I recall that Imelda became more and more supernaturally inclined, or blamed the country's woes on unearthly causes, during the twilight of her and her husband's rule.

But that may be the most horrifying thing of all, our inability or unwillingness to see the real horrors creeping upon us in this cobwebbed land. We may yet see the greatest horror movie of all. In life.

## Nantes bill to push vital coco research

### POLITICAL TIDBITS

**Belinda Olivares-Curaman**



A FEW columns back, I wrote about the "perverse" satisfaction citizens would derive from the long delay in the passage of the 2005 national budget, and even the distinct possibility of its ending up "reenacted." Meaning, that the 2003 budget, which was "reenacted" for 2004, might have to be used again in 2005. I told Senate President Franklin Drilon that citizens have clamored for a reduction of the pork barrel to help reduce the budget deficit, and with the possibility of a reenacted budget for 2005, they are quite anxious that the much-hallyhoed 40-percent reduction might not happen at all.

Drilon said there's little reason for that fear as only one-fourth of pork funds for 2004 has been released as of the third quarter of the year, and chances are, only one-half would be out by year's end. Moreover, should the 2005 budget be finally passed in February, releases of part of the pork would probably take place only in May or June next year, as has happened often.

I discussed the pork barrel delays with a veteran observer in the House and he confirmed that there was a drought for funds in that chamber. "It's worse than El Nino," he said. He stressed, however, that while the people in Manila may applaud the non-release of the much-desired pork as a triumph of public opinion, out in the provinces, especially the very poor ones, constituents suffer tremendously from the pork cuts. "An extra kilometer of road or a schoolhouse means jobs back in the provinces," he pointed out.

Some weeks ago, at the dinner hosted by Timor Leste honorary consul in Manila Lito Jimenes for visiting Timorese Foreign Minister Jose Ramos Horta, I sat next to neophyte Quezon Rep. Lorenzo "Erin" Tañada, grandson of the late Sen. Lorenzo Tañada and son of former Sen. Wigberto Tañada. Erin said he was very much against the abolition of the pork barrel. Being a Tañada, he was doubtless aware that his position on the pork would raise eyebrows, but he explained that his district is very poor and needs a lot of infrastructure. Moreover, it

is often hit by typhoon, hence much of his CDF will be spent meeting the emergency needs of his constituents such as medicines and relief goods during such emergencies "when it's good to have some funds to allocate." The people in affluent Makati, he said, may have less need for pork barrel, but in Quezon this makes a lot of difference. He said everything really depends on how the legislator uses his pork. There are those who use them wisely and those who don't.

The veteran House observer pointed out that the delay in the pork release creates another complication as it places House members at the mercy of the contractors for their public works projects. For these lawmakers these projects have to continue, pork or no pork, since they help ensure their political survival. With the delays in the releases, the contractors often end up financing the projects first, often by taking out loans themselves and the lawmakers pay them once the funds are released. This arrangement is conducive to cutting deals between them or results in substandard projects.

As I wrote earlier, virgin coconut oil has taken center stage here and abroad, thanks partly to the books written on its fantastic possibilities by Dr Bruce Fife. Here Dr. Conrado Dayrit, professor emeritus of pharmacology at the University of the Philippines (and father of Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit) has pioneered in research on this once lowly product of nature. In a foreword to Dr. Fife's new book the elder Dayrit wrote, "its most remarkable property is that while it's food, it's also an antibiotic, an immuno-enhancer and a drug that regulates the

body's function and defense mechanisms against many chronic diseases of man. It restores the normal balance of tissues or cells that have become dysfunctional." What a gift from Nature, he added. "The body has an arsenal that can make the US defense forces green with envy."

The good news is that House Resolution No. 310 was recently introduced by Quezon Rep. Rafael Nantes, urging the government to go full-blown in support of further research on coconut oil. The resolution urges Cocofinance and the UCPB-CLP Foundations, "both social arms of the UCPB, the bank organized for the benefit of the coconut farmers," to help fund that research especially on the monolaurin, the element in coconut oil that is believed to be the antidote to AIDS." The resolution noted that Dayrit's pioneering work on the curative qualities of virgin coconut oil clearly needs "more concrete conclusions to satisfy the world scientific community." It noted that the coconut levy funds collected from the farmers three decades ago would have grown to at least P819 million as of April 30, 2004. Nantes said these Cocofinance funds should now be harnessed to finance the necessary research on monolaurin, in order to help the impoverished coconut farmers as well as the campaign against AIDS.

Former Quezon Rep. and former Philippine Coconut Authority Administrator Oscar Santos wrote to say that "the government would be highly remiss if it fails to support and fund the additional research and study on coconut oil and monolaurin." While "big sums of money go to waste," he said, fund support for Dayrit's pioneering work "could very well be a boon to mankind." I agree. Think of all the AIDS victims awaiting a breakthrough in the treatment of this deadly disease. Think of the three million coconut farmers and their families—about 15 million Filipinos—depending on the coconut industry for their subsistence. Lawmakers, especially from the coconut-growing provinces, and the administration should support the Nantes resolution.

## No al bloqueo'

### HUMAN FACE

**Ma. Ceres P. Doyo**



THINK of yourself as a citizen of a small island nation of 11 million floating near the armpit of the United States, a powerful nation where milk and honey flow profusely so many of its citizens are growing under the weight of obesity and too much eating.

Think of yourself as a Cuban, deprived of many necessities and opportunities simply because your neighbor, a giant nation many times your size, has leaders who are fixated on the belief that your dot of a country is a "threat" to their security.

The big one squeezes the small one to make it go down on its knees and cry "Uncle!" But no, Jorge. Porque no? Because no self-respecting nation, no matter how small, will capitulate to an immoral sanction. Because no sovereign nation that knows the meaning of pride would want to take tutorials on how to run its affairs.

Today, Oct. 28, a draft resolution calling for an ending to the US economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba will again be deliberated and voted on at the UN.

For the past 13 consecutive years, Cuba has been submitting resolutions to the United Nations General Assembly demanding the lifting of the US embargo against it. The embargo/blockade, this continuous crucifixion of the Cuban people is now on its 45th year. Nothing as sustained as this has been imposed by a powerful country against a poor, little one.

As Cuban ambassador to the Philippines Ramon Medina said, the US sanctions against Cuba are the harshest in the world, much harsher than the sanctions against Iraq. Even the Pope has pleaded against this cruelty.

Last year, 179 countries, including the Philippines (which shares a Spanish and American colonial past with Cuba), voted in favor of ending the embargo. Two countries abstained. Only three (the US, Israel and the Marshall Islands) voted to continue the cruel embargo.

The US loses its case with Cuba every time the embargo issue is voted on in the UN, so what's the problem? The US is the problem. Because it rules the world.

What does this embargo/blockade mean?

Cuba cannot export to the US; it cannot engage

in sales with US entrepreneurs. Cuba is capable of exporting to the US about 15,000 tons of nickel every year, at least 1,000 tons of cobalt and more than two million tons of cement. But it can't.

Cuba cannot import from the US. Food may be allowed, but only under special circumstances and only on cash basis. Cuba cannot access financial credits, not even private ones.

US companies, on the other hand, have to go through a difficult bureaucratic process in the US if they are to sell to Cuba. Cuba cannot use its own maritime vessels in trading operations. Only US or third-party vessels can be used. Cuba is not allowed direct banking relations with the US, so it has to go through third-country banks.

US citizens and corporations could be fined or suffer imprisonment for setting foot on Cuba. Oh, but there are many US tourists and Hemingway wannabes in Cuba. Easy. They go through Mexico. In Cuba their passports are not stamped.

In the last 45 years, Cuba has not had any access to international financial agencies. No single credit. But in 2003, the Inter-American Development Bank is said to have pumped nearly \$9 billion in credits into Latin America while the World Bank forked out \$5 billion. Nada for Cuba.

The Torricelli Act of 1992 prohibits Cuba from trading with US companies present in third countries. And third-country vessels that call at Cuban ports must wait six months before docking in US ports.

The Helms-Burton Act allows for legal sanctions in the US against third-country businesses that deal with Cuba. Company officials found to have dealings with Cuba are prevented from entering the US. Wanna steal a Cuban brand name

like Havana Club? In fact, someone has beaten you to it, thanks to the Helms-Burton Act.

The list is endless.

The geopolitical configurations in the world have changed, so what's so threatening about Cuba?

The Bush administration has supposedly set aside big sums for radio broadcasts to Cuba and to finance opposition to the Castro regime. The objective: to overthrow the present dispensation and establish US control over Cuba. Remember Nicaragua?

But despite what Cuba has had to go through, it has made great strides in the field of medicine, medical technology and microbiology which could be the envy of more developed countries. The Cuban ambassador said Cuba had to look for a niche where it could excel and so the world will be better because of Cuba's potent vaccines.

But the blockade is gravely affecting all this. Cuba cannot obtain diagnostic equipment and reagents from US companies. Cuba has to turn to Europe and this means added cost.

A recent case was that of Oxoid, a British firm supplying lab reagents and culture mediums. When Oxoid was partly taken over by a US company, Cuba's requests were turned down.

About \$79 billion—is this Cuba's estimate of the economic damage caused by the US blockade *No al bloqueo!* This is the cry of Cuba and the community of nations.

I read Resolution 58/7 which Cuba will present to the UN, and I learned about Cuba's crucifixion and bled. It ends.

"Cuba will not cease from defending her independence and she knows that her resistance contributes to the struggle waged by many peoples in this world for a more dignified life, and for the right to develop in fairer and more sustainable conditions. Neither will she ever give up the hope of one day having smooth, respectful relations with the American people."

Learn more about Cuba and the Philippines' shared past. Contact the Philippines-Cuba Cultural and Friendship Association at 9950849 to 50.

Send comments to [cerepd@info.com.ph](mailto:cerepd@info.com.ph)

## Sweat of a woman

### THE LONG VIEW

**Manuel L. Quezon III**



MY father once told me a story about one of his contemporaries, the son of a famous Filipino journalist-diplomat. This fellow ended up spending some time in France, and fell in love with a French girl. They dated. But the relationship didn't prosper. The man had to end the budding romance because, he explained to her with a great deal of embarrassment, he couldn't get used to her body odor. The girl was shocked. "Why I thought you'd find it attractive," she cried. "Men find this kind of body odor attractive!" But the man wouldn't budge. No go, he said, we Filipinos like our women scentless. And so, they parted.

This story always comes to mind when I read the section on Smell in Diane Ackerman's marvelous book, "A Natural History of the Senses." In a famous letter, "Ackerman writes, 'Napoleon told Josephine 'not to bathe' during the two weeks that would pass before they met, so that he could enjoy all her natural aromas.'

Lest you start thinking that among his other oddities Napoleon was a perennial body-odor lover, he had more cultivated tastes, too. Ackerman adds: "But Napoleon and Josephine also adored violets. She often wore a violet-scented perfume, which was her trademark. When she died in 1814, Napoleon planted violets at her grave. Just before his exile on St. Helena, he made a pilgrimage to it, picked some of the violets, and entombed them in a locker, which he wore around his neck; they stayed there until the end of his life." Ackerman further tells us that the British Navy gallantly allowed ships bearing violets for the Emperor to pass through their blockade unhindered.

But what the Emperor of the French exhibited—an unabashed pleasure in the scent of his woman—we all exhibit, too. While our brains are infinitely more complex than those of all other creatures, scents can reduce us to acting like the male moths who go berserk the moment a lady moth squirts an infinitesimal amount of pheromone in the air. Complex creatures that we are, our pheromones can be the real thing, or manufactured substances, or a combination of the two.

Ackerman is frank about the power of smells.

"Research done by Robert Henkin, from the Center for Sensory Disorders at Georgetown University, suggests that about a quarter of the people with smell disorders find that their sex drive disappears. What part does smell play in lovemaking? For women, especially, a large part... Females score higher than males in sensitivity to odors, regardless of age group. For a time scientist thought that estrogen might be involved, since there was anecdotal evidence that pregnant women had a keener sense of smell, but as it turned out prepubescent girls were better sniffers than boys their age, and pregnant women were no more adept at smelling than other women..."

The greater adeptness of women at detecting odors may account for why men are often so clumsy when it comes to handling their personal odors, such as the furtive, deep inhalation of one's armpits that characterize the adolescent males' dating behavior. (One unlucky fellow was caught in this act by his date, whereupon he tried to rescue himself by pointing his finger at her and going, "Bang, bang!")

The fact is, women probably live in a far richer world, smell-wise, and display a greater sensitivity to the power of odors. Ackerman says that the scientist George Preti "staged an experiment in which ten women had the sweat of other women applied under their noses at regular intervals. It took three months for the women to begin menstruating at the same time as the women whose sweat they were smelling. A control group, daubed with alcohol instead of sweat, didn't change their cycles at all. Clearly, a pheromone in sweat affects menstrual synchrony, which is why

women in dorms or close girlfriends so often menstruate at the same time, a phenomenon known as the McClintock Effect (after Martha McClintock, the psychologist who first observed it). There appear to be other effects. When a man gets involved with a woman for any length of time, his facial hair starts to grow faster than it did before. Women who are cloistered away from men (say, in a boarding school) enter puberty later than women who are around men. Mothers recognize the odor of their newborn children... This is not true for fathers, who do not recognize the smell of their infants, but men can determine whether a T-shirt has been worn by a male or a female."

There are, however, theories Ackerman clearly finds moronic: "In fact, Sandra Perenzi, a disciple of Freud's, went so far as to declare, in *Thalassa: A Theory of Genitality*, that men only make love to women because women's womb smell of herring brine, and men are trying to get back into the primordial ocean—surely one of the more remarkable theories on the subject." Ackerman dryly notes: "He didn't offer an explanation for why women have intercourse with men. One researcher claims that this 'fishiness' is due not to anything intrinsic to the vagina, but rather to poor hygiene after intercourse, or vaginitis, or stale sperm." So there.

But here's a juicy tidbit to end things: "For those of us with exquisite sensuality, there is nothing better than the musky smell of a loved one moist with sweat. But natural body odors don't strike most of us as particularly enticing. In the Elizabethan Age, lovers exchanged 'love apples'—a woman would keep a peeled apple in her armpit until it was saturated with her sweat, and then give it to her sweetheart to inhale."

Surely a repulsive present if there ever was one.

Two awful errors in my previous column: The Austrian Hapsburgs were the junior, not senior, branch of the dynasty and the Princes of Hanover style themselves the Dukes, and not Princes, of Cumberland. Thank you sharp-eyed readers who corrected me.

Comments welcome at [www.quezon.ph](http://www.quezon.ph)

## Life and when it stops

The true profession of man is to find a way to himself.

—Herman Hesse

MY age, if rounded off, is 30. Though I cringe over that fact, I have also welcomed the idea that while life could have been more perfect than this, being twenty-something is a glorious time to enjoy life and all its imperfections.

Nov. 13, 2001. Just when everyone was exploring the dating game, I was shamefully hanging on to the ideal of one great love. At 25, I was foolish enough to believe that

### YOUNG BLOOD

**Marife Carandang**

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

When I look back to the biggest drama of my 20s, I miss those times when I could just blame my youth for any needless suffering.

Jan. 1, 2002. Bill Cosby once said that in life, surprises sneak up on us and grapple us. I initially thought surprises would come in such nice forms as bonuses in one's pay envelope, but soon found out about universal conspiracies that make things happen for us.

I agreed to be set up for a blind date by a friend and I found out later how a single decision can truly change us. On the spur of the moment, I agreed to go with the guy to Baguio and quickly discovered that love happens after all and, when it does, you would be stupid not to surrender to its beauty.

And so it came to be that at 25, I got myself a boyfriend and found a very good reason to believe life was worth living. The pine trees and Burnham Park were witness to the so-called surprises of life that, oh well, sneak up on us.

Feb. 10, 2002. Sometimes, however, I wish life happens only when I am having a really great time living it. That getting old happens just when one's writing makes one qualify for a Haworthian scholarship or when one can finally afford Spanish clothes or one is as pretty as Caroline Bessette. The irony is that when you're in your 20s, it's difficult not to think of the times when happiness used to mean a Nick Hornby book and a coffee latte.

In the meantime, I settled down with my antiquated laptop, occasionally suffering writer's block, and reconciled myself to the reality that my bra size would never be like Lara Croft's. I learned to suck the marrow out of life—and even the bone altogether. I found out the many ways people can hurt others. I found out street-smart ways of dealing with life. I discovered Hollywood endings. I learned to build time-tested mechanisms that will help me get by when I reach 60, like cultivating a few intimate friends/shrinks, having clueless days when Paul Rudd is the screen version of a hottie, and enjoying everything real or imagined that makes me look forward to the next day.

Next thing I knew, I was a year older, and hoping that while I was still busy figuring out the rest of my life, someone could cut the sunset for me.

June 5, 2002. Since my boyfriend had to quit his teaching job at the University of the Philippines, I also quit teaching. Considering the many opportunities I had after that, what I thought was a dumb thing to do turned out to be one of my smartest choices. As I waited for my next job, it would have been easy to wish I were dead. But I didn't. At the other end of that ordeal, I found out for myself something I had lost in me for a while. No, not those calories from eating too much potato chips or my mint green sleeping socks. Rather, it was something innate and unexplainable but which gave me a great sense of self. I was glad I left my job before I became too soft for everything or too tough for some things. For that was indeed a risk I took, with so many things left wanting. It was a chance I was ready to take with, like riding the Anchor's Away in Enchanted Kingdom or the Kiss My Face moisturizer or getting braces. Frustrations do have a way of making it easy to self-destruct (like painting my toenails or popping two Vitamin C's—sorry but this is as far as I can get).

Nick Hornby said you need a lot of ballast to keep you floating in life. I was glad that despite the scary thought of being jobless for a while and that while I did not have the face of Miss Russia, at least I had some spunk. It wasn't dying, but it made me more involved with life—its stress and laughter, challenges and tears.

April 13,

## Pride in the rank

THIS raging controversy about Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia makes me recall another Garcia. It was a proud name in his day and age. He was Brig. Gen. Nicanor Garcia. There is a short street named after him in Makati (formerly Reposo), perpendicular to JP Rizal Street. He was, like "Garcia," a graduate of the Philippine Military Academy.

I met him at a time when he was being vilified as "protecting smugglers," a victim of an early political fever campaign obviously intended to frustrate the reelection of President Diosdado Macapagal in 1965. Then nearing his retirement from the service as chief of the Philippine Constabulary, he told me that he was living on his pay and that he didn't deserve all the brickbats from politicians. He was in near tears.

When he died a few years later, he had no mansions and fat bank accounts. His family could not even give him a decent funeral. Only then did a lot of people realize there is a lesson to be learned here. People in uniform should stay out of politics. A politicized military and police, usually sanctimonious, will do no good to their organizations. Military adventurism destroys the country, as we have seen.

Politicians should keep their hands and their mouths off the uniformed branches of our government. For the most part, media mileage and personal agenda are

reasons for their meddling. Let each one take care of his own concerns. Too, it's time people in government give more time to service than for themselves. We have to get rid of the "pockets first" syndrome. Then there will be peace and progress. Prosperity will be just around the corner.

I met Col. Nicanor Jimenez in June 1985 in Seoul where he served as ambassador. He said that he preferred "colonel," much like Secretary Carlos Romulo who preferred to be addressed "general." A sense of pride in the rank. He recalled his times in the military—and my two brothers whom he met when they were young officers in the budding Philippine Army. "Them," he said in nostalgia, "were really the good old days." And they were indeed. Then, unlike now, it was "country first." Good slogan, isn't it?

—DIOSDADO R PERALTA,  
44 K-8th St.,  
West Kamias, Quezon City

Jersey Shipping Industries Inc. Again, no Vivian Monterey can be found thereat:

I noticed your announcement that no letter will be printed in the Inquirer unless accompanied with a complete address, telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. I feel that you have to be more circumspect in this regard, as Vivian Monterey of 8061 Estrella Avenue, Makati City is apparently a fictitious person.

—REP ROLEX T. SUPlico,  
Fifth District, Iloilo

Maysilo Circle is the Archdiocesan Shrine of The Divine Mercy. This fact can be verified from the Catholic Directory of the Philippines or by visiting the National Shrine in Marilao or the Archdiocesan Shrine in Mandaluyong City.

—MSGR. FRANCISCO M. DE LEON,  
rector, Archdiocesan Shrine  
of The Divine Mercy,  
Maysilo Circle, Boni Avenue,  
Mandaluyong City

The ordinance should be amended to give people a more reasonable time frame within which they can park their cars. Also the parking fees should be reduced to make it competitive with parking at the malls. The present street parking fee is P30 for the first two hours and P40 for the next hour or a total of P70 for a three-hour parking, which is more expensive than parking inside shopping malls. That's the reason why there are many empty street-parking spaces which means lost income for the city government.

—L. ENCHONG SEE,  
enchongsee@yahoo.com

## DSWD in close touch with children

THIS is to clarify an item in Solita Monsod's Oct. 9 column, "A successful sting going bust," about the July 3 rescue of minors from a child pornography syndicate.

First of all, we wish to clarify that there were only 58—not 70—minors and nine adults involved. Thesia Biolena, officer in charge of Field Office IV-A, Department of Social Welfare and Development, was part of the rescue team. After the rescue, interviews and counseling services were immediately undertaken to gather information on how the children were lured into this situation, as well as to know about their families and immediate relatives.

It was found out that 32 minors and five adults were from the National Capital Region while the rest were from Cavite.

Not a single minor was discharged to his or her family within four hours, as claimed by Monsod's source. In the NCR, seven minors and two adults were transferred to various DSWD-licensed non-government organizations, six were left under our care and the rest were returned to their families after proper assessment. Proper assessment involves looking into the circumstances surrounding the case—the child, his/her family and the community.

The discharge of minors was based on our social workers' professional judgment and proper assessment and it was not done in haste.

In Region 4, before minors are discharged, our social workers conduct home visits and coordinate with the local government units where they are going to reside. The concerned LGUs and NGOs are also mobilized to assist in monitoring the minors' school and community circle and to provide after-care services.

We believe that the best place for a child is with his or her family and in the comfort of his or her home, except when it is proven that the family is placing its child member at risk. In such eventuality, the National Bureau of Investigation has decided not to use some minors as witnesses since it cannot be ascertained whether or not they were directly involved in the video pornography syndicate.

We assure Monsod that we are continuously monitoring the status of the children.

—ALICIA R. BALA,  
assistant secretary  
for Luzon Cluster,  
Department of Social Welfare  
and Development,  
Batasan Pambansa Complex,  
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

## Was it just an election come-on?

I WAS intrigued by the reaction of Joel P. Palacio, vice president for media affairs of the Social Security System, to the request of Facundo Talio for an increase in the SSS retirement pension. (PDI, 9/23/04)

He said that the SSS cannot grant a pension increase at this time due to financial constraints. If that is so, so be it. All I ask is that we pensioners continue to receive our retirement benefits on time. (Or is the system running out of funds and sinking because, as SSS president and general manager Corazon de la Paz reasoned out, many pensioners have outlived their life expectancy and have drained the system's funds? How unchristian naman.)

Two months before the last national elections, I used to receive my monthly pension check a week before the due date, right at my residence. Or was it just an election come-on? I am now disillusioned. At this writing, I have not received my measly pension check for September. It is now October, in which case I should be receiving two checks already. Maybe, Palacio would like to look into this case and others of similar nature.

I need the money for my daily maintenance medicine for my hypertension. I have been taking them for the last 30 years.

—MANUEL N. OYSON JR.,  
Oyson Apartments,  
M. H. Aznar Road,  
Barangay Sambag 2, Cebu City



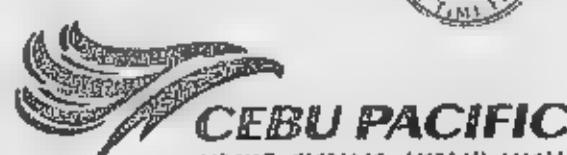
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# Across the NATION

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# Group says 3 rivers contaminated

## Cites EMB findings of high levels of chromium hexavalent



VIN HANLON FOR PHOTO

A boy sleeps on a sidewalk along Fuente Osmeña in Cebu City, unmindful of the danger of doing so. Passersby appear to ignore him.

## DENR says new coliform crisis looms in Boracay

By Volt Contreras

SEVEN years after reports of water contamination scared away tourists from the resort island of Boracay, majority of business establishments and households there still ignore measures critical to preventing another contamination in the future.

Behind Boracay's world-famous white sand beach and clear waters, environmental consciousness appears to be wanting particularly among those who

profit from the island's charms.

Of the 440 businesses now hosted by the island, only 210 operate with an environmental compliance certificate from the government as of last month, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources reported yesterday.

Only 50.5 percent of hotels and restaurants and only 24.9 percent of the households have installed pipelines connecting to the centralized sewage treatment plant that began operations on

the island in 2003, the DENR added.

The plant, run by the Philippine Tourism Authority, was constructed by the government to prevent a repeat of the 1997 coliform bacteria spread that drove tourist arrivals down by 60 percent that year.

On a positive note, the agency said Boracay's water quality—particularly its total and fecal coliform levels—remains within safety standards for recreation and fishing.

**Environment Secretary**  
Michael Defensor issued a warning yesterday to non-complying businessmen, saying they face sanctions from the DENR within the year unless they start applying for an ECC or connect their structures to the sewage plant.

Still on the state of Boracay, Defensor also noted that majority of its inhabitants still have no titles to the lands they occupy, though this is largely due to the island's outdated classification as a "public forest land."

Baldonado said the incident could similarly happen in communities around the former US military installation here.

"These rivers, where people usually catch fish and take a bath, transverse the old dump inside the Subic Bay Freeport," she said.

Baldonado's group has joined the "Peace Boat," a Japanese-based non-government organization that conducts global peace voyages.

She briefed the Japanese volunteers on updates on the issue of contamination of former US facilities in Clark in Pampanga and Subic.

During the forum, Baldonado also cited another study of the Department of Health that showed that 47 out of 97 people who used to live in former US motor pools in the Clark Air Base Command (Cabcom) in Clark, had been found with high levels of arsenic and lead in their blood.

"This study confirms earlier findings by a DOH doctor that there are high levels of lead in the blood of pregnant women and children in the area," she said.

"The port call of Peace Boat in Subic is timely. The USS Stockholm will dock at the same site (on Thursday) and it is a great opportunity for the citizens to come together and protest the continued and unlimited access of the US to our ports," Baldonado said.

She said while it used to be only Subic and Clark, American troops are all over the country "polluting our environment while they continue to walk away from the responsibility to clean up heavily polluted bases."

The Japanese ship, which has become a floating peace village over the past years, docked at the Alava Pier in Subic Bay on Wednesday.

The Japanese will learn about the local communities and help victims of toxic wastes left in the former American military bases in the country press the US government for bases cleanup.

Around 1,500 members of various cause-oriented groups staged a "peace march" on Wednesday afternoon to call on the US government to claim responsibility for toxic waste contamination.

## 'Pork' appetite drives bid for another district

By Romy G. Amarado  
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—Two of the three congressmen in Negros Oriental will push for the creation of another congressional district in the province.

Rep. Emilio Macias II (Neg. Or., 2nd district), House committee chair on local government, said Rep. Jacinto Paras (Neg. Or., 1st district) would file a bill before his committee for the creation of another district in Negros Oriental.

Macias said he would support the bill because the province "deserves another congressman."

"First of all, we are already qualified to have another district. Second, this will mean additional amount for the province because every congressman is entitled to the so-called pork barrel," Macias said.

The congressman said the current fiscal crisis should not be a reason to deny the province what it was entitled of, adding that the province should not just depend on the graces of Malacañang because it might not come.

Under the Constitution, a locality with a population of at least 250,000 is entitled to a congressional representation.

Macias said the province is entitled to four congressional districts because the population of Negros Oriental already reached more than one million in 2001.

If the plan pushes through, he added the present composition of the congressional districts in the province would have to be reorganized.

Macias said that under Paras' bill, the first district will be composed of Canlaon City, and the towns of Vallahermoso, Guihuligan, La Libertad, Jimalalud and Tayasan.

At present, these localities belong to the first district, along with the towns of Ayungon, Bindoy and Manjuyod.

But according to the bill, Ayungon, Bindoy and Manjuyod will be part of the new second district, along with Mabinay town and Bais City.

Mabinay and Bais are currently under the second district, along with the cities of Dumaguete and Tanjay, and the towns of Pamplona, Amlan, San Jose and Sibulan.

Under the bill, Dumaguete, Tanjay, Pamplona, Amlan, San Jose, Sibulan and Valencia town will comprise the new third district.

At present, Valencia along with Bacond, Dauin, Zamboanguita, Silat, Sta. Catalina, Basay and Beyawan City belong to the third district.

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# A10 NDF says slay plot report 'outright lie'

MALAYBALAY CITY—The National Democratic Front (NDF) described as "outright lies" claims that the New People's Army (NPA) sent out a liquidation squad against at least four ranking military officials in Mindanao.

Last week, Pastor Alcover, leader of the pro-military Alliance for National Democracy (ANAD), said NPA rebels headed by Southern Mindanao-based Leonardo Pitao alias Commander Parago would carry out the supposed liquidation.

Alcover, a former rebel leader and organizer based in Central Visayas, said he got the information from an agent, who managed to penetrate the rebels.

He said the officials were marked for liquidation because of their active campaign against the insurgents.

Alcover said he was told that an NPA team

had already been dispatched to carry out the plot against Task Force Davao commander Col. Eduardo del Rosario, 5th Civil Relations Group chief Lt. Col. Agane Adriatico, former Military Intelligence Group commander Lt. Col. Allen Capuyan, and former Intelligence Service Unit chief Major Jose Faustino.

But Cesar Renerio, spokesperson of the NDF Northcentral Mindanao, told the Inquirer that there was no need to dispatch a special team against any military official.

Those are outright lies. As military officers they are legitimate targets in the battlefield without dispatching NPA operatives," he said.

Renerio said the claims were plain "military alibi" because the said officials wanted to be promoted or transferred to other units.

Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau

## HOLIDAY

Tourists take a stroll on the boardwalk of a resort on Slargao Island in Surigao del Norte. While the island has not resorted to aggressive promotion to attract tourists, visitors flock to its beaches and resorts for their holiday.



## Taxes sought on gas project

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—The provincial government of Palawan wants to tax the platform and other machineries being used for the exploration of the Camago-Malampaya Natural Gas-to-Power Project.

In a privilege speech during the session of the provincial council yesterday, Vice Gov. David Ponce de Leon said the council fully supports the provincial assessor's move to assess the real properties of Shell Phils Exploration B.V. (Spex), the company leading the exploration of the Malampaya project.

But Spex has not answered yet the letter sent by the assessor's office, demanding that it declare its real properties used in Malampaya.

Instead, the company referred the assessor to the Department of Energy.

The Inquirer tried to get comments from Spex public affairs director Pacundo Roco but he was out of the country.

"We wrote them three times but they always referred us to the DOE," provincial assessor Salvador Pacaldo said.

According to Pacaldo, they assessed the property in Malampaya on July 30 and sent the first letter to Spex on Aug. 4.

The assessed value of the real properties amounted to more than P1 billion.

The basic tax for real properties is one percent of the total assessed value. Another .5 percent of the one percent basic tax will be collected for special educational fund.

From this, Pacaldo said, the local government could collect around P47 million in taxes for one year.

The commercial quantity operation in Malampaya started in 2002 so the Spex is subject to back taxes from 2002, Pacaldo added.

She said it took them a while to assess the value of the real properties in Malampaya because they had to go to Batangas where the offshore refinery is located.

The real properties include the platform, machineries, pipelines and other underwater facilities.

However, in a meeting with the provincial council yesterday De Leon, a lawyer and a former congressman, said there might be a technicality when it comes to collecting the taxes because a provision in the service contract for the gas project "favors Spex as the holder with tax exemption—virtually from all kinds of local taxes."

It was entered into by the Spex and the national government in 1990, earlier than the effectiveness of the Local Government Code in 1992.

Jofelle Tesorio, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

## 6-month strike at bus firm ends

TARLAC CITY—Less than a week after the Philippine Rabbit Bus Lines (PRBL) resumed operations following the signing of a memorandum of agreement between management and its 900-strong striking employees' union, all but three of the bus firm's terminals in Central and Northern Luzon are in full swing.

The MOA signing on Oct. 21 between Nicolo Nisco, company president, and Alan Bagtong, president of the employees' union, ended the six-month-old strike by PRBL employees.

The day after the signing, striking employees lifted the picketline they set up in front of the company's Tarlac City terminal and buses started to ply their routes.

Began at the onset of Holy Week in April this year, the strike was staged due to alleged non-implementation of the provisions of a Dec. 18, 2002 MOA on wages and benefits between workers and management.

As a result of the strike, the operations of the country's oldest bus firm were paralyzed for six months. The PRBL has terminals in Angeles City, Tarlac, Alaminos City, Baguio City, La Union, Abra and La Union. Of these, only three—La Union, Baguio and La Union terminals—have yet to operate full blast.

"They are still being cleaned up and the facilities there are being readied," Bagtong said.

Asked about the prospects of the latest MOA, Bagtong said he was "optimistic that the terms of the agreement would be honored this time."

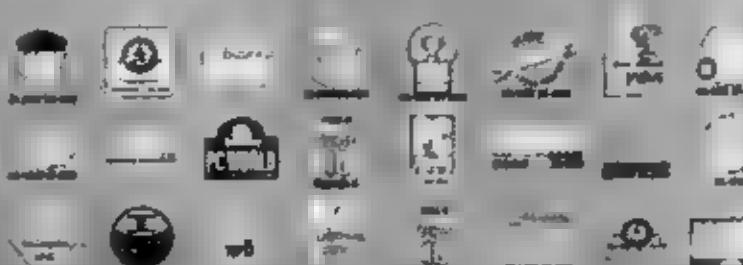
According to the MOA, no charges will be filed against the striking employees. The workers will also be paid their wage differentials worth P16,124 each on a staggered basis.

Russell Arador, PDI Central Luzon Desk

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# INQUIRER Southern Luzon

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Editor Jun Bandayrel  
Bureau Chief Florencio G. Solmirano

## Leaning school worries parents

By Romulo O. Ponte  
Paete, Laguna

**S**TUDENTS and teachers had barely warmed up to their new two-story building in Paete town in Laguna when something bizarre jolted officials six weeks after classes started: it was leaning to the right.

Immediately, they were ordered to vacate the Paete National High School (PNHS) in Barangay 9, Ibaña del Norte, near the shores of the Laguna de Bay.

Investigation showed the building was being conducted on the second floor of the town's public market.

Their parents are worried. How can they be sure that the school building will be safe for their children?

Construction of the P3.4-million building began in December 2003 and was completed this April, in time for the May 10 national elections, according to provincial engineer Gilberto R. Mondez. It was finished in 180 days, way, way ahead of the expected period of 180 days, he added.

Mondez admitted that the building was indeed leaning, but only by three inches. He said he was informed by the municipal engineer, Noel Viray, on Aug. 13 that the structure had moved due to the "possible settlement of [the] soil foundation."

Marilyn Navarro, mother of a second year student and treasurer of the Paete Parents Teachers Community Association, said the parents had requested the principal, Sonia Cadawas, to transfer the students to the vacant second floor of the market while the building was undergoing repair.

They did not recommend that the building be totally abandoned, Navarro said. "We are ready to allow our children to return to their newly constructed classrooms as soon as they are given assurance by the engineers that the building is already stable and safe for occupancy."

Mondez asked the parents not to worry because experts had been hired and remedial efforts were being made to stop the building's movement.

Minor external work was also going on and would take about a month to complete, he said.

### Former dump

The building stands on a former garbage dump, residents and Cadawas said.

Edgar Ramos, project engineer of another building being put up nearby, said the site was indeed a garbage area but added that he saw to it that the foundations of his project were well placed.

Mondez said the school building was constructed by the provincial government through the provincial engineer's office (PEO).

He said the builder, RNA Contractor, proceeded with the project even without first subjecting the soil to a geological and technical investigation or soil boring test.

The contractor and the PEO relied only on the advice of the municipal engineer and local officials who failed to disclose that the site was once a garbage dump, Mondez said.

It was only after the problem was noticed that the PEO recommended the soil boring test to evaluate the soil conditions.

Mondez said that in his 27 years in the service, his office had constructed about 150 one-story and two-story school buildings in Laguna, all of them without a soil boring test. They recommend the test only when constructing high-rise buildings, he said.

But this was the first time that the defects surfaced shortly after the school building project was completed.

Gov. Teresita Lazaro blamed former municipal officials and the municipal engineer for the flawed structure. She said they failed to give complete information to the contractor and provincial engineer on the type of sand on which the building donated by the provincial government was to be built.

### No defects

Mondez said that when he inspected the building on Oct. 20, he found no defects or cracks in the beams, columns or main structure despite a recent earthquake.

"There is no danger that the building will collapse as implied by media reports; hence, there is no cause for alarm," the provincial engineer said.

He said he had no idea how much the rehabilitation work would cost.

"Surely it would be taken care of by the school building project contractor headed by its general manager, Filipina Estrada," Mondez said.

He said his office, the provincial government and the contractor would take full responsibility and do all remedial work needed to stabilize the building.

His office has tapped the services of construction specialists, particularly Ground Spe-



THE LEANING building of the Paete National High School in Paete, Laguna at the foot of the Sierra Madre mountains

HOTOS BY ROMULO O. PONTE

cians Inc. (GSI), to help ensure the proper rehabilitation of the building.

In an Oct. 19 letter to Mondez, Mamerto A. Sindayen, GSI president, recommended the use of bored piles to correct the inclination.

"This is done by first drilling a hole up to the hard strata and then grouting with concrete after the reinforcement is inserted. We recommend that the boring test be extended deeper up to the firm strata. This will allow us to determine the design length of the pile and the extent of the soft

ground," Sindayen said.

He identified the problem of the building as differential settlement, meaning it slowly settles over a period of time as the underlying soil consolidates.

"The building need not be abandoned and can be used safely without any immediate threat to life and property in the near term," he said. But he added that "remedial measures should still be undertaken to arrest the settlement and prevent structural damage to the building in the long term."

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# JDV wants House to end Garcia probe

From page A1

President Macapagal-Arroyo had ordered, but in the middle of next month.

Worse, the Judge Advocate General's Office (Jago) yesterday said Garcia would be charged with only one violation of the Articles of War—for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman (or Article 96)—instead of the three articles previously mentioned by the Armed Forces.

Even worse, Garcia may get off with only a slap on the wrist as the maximum penalty for violating Article 96 is separation from the service. Since the ex-comptroller of the AFP is due to retire on Nov. 18, when he reaches the mandatory retirement age of 56, he may end up losing only his retirement benefits.

#### Forfeiture petition

But the Office of the Ombudsman yesterday filed a petition for forfeiture against Garcia and his family for allegedly requiring about P143,052,015.29 over and above his "optimum level" military income of P3,273,767.01 from 1993 to 2003, within which time his income started to rise dramatically.

In a 27-page "verified urgent ex parte application for the issuance of writ of preliminary attachment" filed in the Sandiganbayan shortly before 5 p.m., the Ombudsman said the assets, cash and other property of the Garcias should be forfeited in favor of the government.

Also charged were Garcia's wife, Clarita Depakakibio Garcia, and sons Ian Carl, Juan Paolo and Timothy Mark.

The petition was signed by Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo, Special Prosecutor Dennis Villa-Ignacio and acting Deputy Special Prosecutor Humphrey T. Montero.

#### Public opinion

De Venecia expressed the belief that the House inquiry had achieved its



**ASSIGNMENT:** Patikul, Sulu. Battle-ready Marines appear unfazed by the dangers that lurk in their new destination during send-off ceremonies at the Philippine Navy headquarters on Roxas Blvd. on Wednesday.

"strategic objectives." He said the two committees should be congratulated for doing a good job.

"And it seems that the overwhelming public opinion is that the wealth is unexplained, and that is not challenged," he said. "I think the time has come for us to phase out the hearings and move them to the Ombudsman and to the court-martial."

De Venecia said that he spoke with Golez and Lopez last week about his wish to end the hearings, and that the two promised to phase out the inquiry this week.

"While we must go for reforming the AFP which is the thrust of the AFP, we should also try to be moderate and not indict the whole military establishment," he said.

Asked if Malacañang had asked him to end the inquiry, De Venecia said mem-

bers of Congress did things on their own although there were times that they cooperated with Malacañang on certain proposed legislative measures.

He denied that he made the appeal in view of the reported coup plots.

"There are, I think, peripheral movements, but nothing substantial because public opinion seems to be on the side of investigating the rascality in the AFP. The lower echelon in the AFP would also like to see the ranks cleansed," he said.

#### 10 days to answer

At a press briefing, Lt. Col. Al Perreras, Jago executive officer and chief of its military justice division said Garcia would be furnished a copy of the charge sheet against him today.

Garcia has 10 days to file his answer to the charges, after which, Perreras said, "we will evaluate the evidence."

"If there is a prima facie case, we will refer the case for trial for court-martial," he said, adding that the actual trial could start by the middle of next month.

During yesterday's send-off for the 5th Marine Battalion Landing Team at the Navy headquarters, outgoing AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Narciso Abaya said the correct procedure must be followed in the court-martial.

#### No shortcuts

"We have to follow procedure here. We cannot rush this because it can still be questioned in the Supreme Court, that there was a miscarriage of justice because we made some shortcuts. And that would be a very sad story," Abaya said.

Twice already, the President has ordered the AFP to convene the court-martial of Garcia, who is accused of accumulating unexplained wealth here and abroad.

Abaya said he would not succumb to pressure to convene the court-martial at the soonest possible time, or at least before he retires tomorrow.

"I don't care about the pressure. We have to follow the rule of law and due process. I've been saying that all along. This is not a kangaroo court that we are constituting," he said.

#### Mandatory penalty

Perreras said the Office of the Ombudsman had the jurisdiction to try Garcia for violation of Republic Act No. 3019, or the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act.

The mandatory penalty for violation of Article of War 96 is separation from the service, Perreras said.

"The benefits [of Garcia] can be forfeited. It can be included in the punishment to be imposed by the general court-martial," he said.

Garcia may choose to collect his pension on a "lump-sum" basis equivalent to his last monthly salary of around P36,000 for three years, or elect to re-

ceive his monthly pension, also equivalent of his last monthly salary.

The lump-sum pension, in Garcia's case, may amount to around P1.5 million, including other salary benefits. He can also collect his reimbursement from the Retirement, Separation and Benefits System and the Government Service Insurance System, depending on their monthly contributions.

Garcia will be provided a defense counsel by the military but he might choose to avail himself of the services of civilian and military counsel, Perreras said.

The military has named eight senior officials who may compose the court-martial. Perreras said this was only a "short list" submitted to Abaya. A final list has yet to be released.

Perreras also said Garcia would be entitled to his right to challenge any officer of the court-martial before he can be arraigned. Once challenged, this member is taken out of the court-martial and replaced with another officer.

#### Huge amounts

The Office of the Ombudsman said a preliminary investigation of the criminal cases showed that "a prima facie case exists against" Garcia and his family for holding in his behalf "huge amounts of money and properties manifestly out of proportion to his salary."

It said the family members acted as "conspirators, conduits, dumpees and fronts" of Garcia in "receiving, accumulating, using and disposing of his ill-gotten wealth."

It added that Garcia's family "concealed" and "dissipated" the assets to "prevent their being found and forfeited in favor of the government."

Among the assets are real property and cash deposits in the United States amounting to \$2,310,630.29.

The Garcias were also found to have P12-million investments in the Armed Forces and Police Savings and Loan Association.

## Abaya's wife challenges Miriam: Name names

From page A1

She also said the women were easy to spot because their salt-and-pepper hair was now colored.

Abaya said, however, that she did not have the resources to hire a personal driver or even to get her hair straightened.

"Look at my hair—it's not even straight," she said. "It's good thing I don't have any money to go to the beauty parlor. Because if I had the time, I would have the money. I don't even have a driver. I don't even have security even if I'm an undersecretary of the National Anti-Poverty Commission. Maybe I should have a driver from my office. [But] I never had a driver. I always drive myself to and from the office. I get a driver [only] when I know it would be hard for me to get to where I'm going."

In Malacañang, Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said President Macapagal-Arroyo's position on Santiago's exposé on the alleged corruption in the military was to "hasten the investigation" of the AFP.

"Her point is, let's zero in on those who are really guilty. But the greater majority of our soldiers and officials who are upright and who observe the code of conduct should be isolated from these sweeping statements," he said.

The President had earlier called on political leaders to tone down their attacks

on the military, saying they should not "drench the uniform in dishonor for the wayward acts of a few."

#### Danger to democracy

But Santiago escalated her attack on what she had called the military "Mafia," saying corrupt officials were "a serious danger to our democratic way of life."

She said that contrary to the claim of AFP spokesperson Edilberto Adan that she strengthened the "enemies of the state" with her privilege speech on Monday, the "Gang of 12" composed of the chief of staff and the J officials was the real threat to democracy.

As an act of "preemptive self-defense," Santiago blocked Adan's confirmation as lieutenant general by the powerful Commission on Appointments, which met yesterday for an organizational meeting.

She said Adan's promotion to the next rank should not be confirmed because of his "fascistic mind-set."

She also said that as deputy chief of staff, Adan was now part of the "syndicated corruption led by the chief of staff who, together with the J-1 to J-11 generals, [now make up] the Gang of 13."

#### Suppliers

Abaya said that per her recollection, there were only two occasions when military suppliers approached her.

The first time, she said, was when she was asked to resolve a supplier's problem with pending payments: "All I did was ask where the documents were. And then I found out that the case related to that had been pending for a long time and was in fact already with the Office of the President. So I told them the AFP cannot do anything anymore."

She said the other occasion was when she was asked to facilitate an introduction to Brig. Gen. Efren Veran of the AFP Medical Center regarding the military's medical supplies: "I checked with General Veran this morning. That person never even went to [him]."

But General Abaya said he did not know of any incident wherein suppliers had approached his wife.

"They don't even approach me, much less Mrs. Abaya," he said.

#### Training programs

Abaya admitted going to the AFP Medical Center—but only to visit wounded soldiers, she said.

She also said she and the other spouses of senior officials were conducting livelihood programs for soldiers' wives.

They have trained around 3,000 wives in 37 camps nationwide, she said.

"Hopefully, these ladies [will] live up to their promise to us that they will use what they have learned," Abaya said,

adding: "We taught beauty culture, we taught massage and cooking. I told them, 'These are skills that you can use for your families, so that your husbands won't have to get a massage from others.'

"I also told them to cook for their families, cut their husbands' and children's hair. That's already one way of saving and stretching the salaries of their husbands."

#### Paywar

In a letter submitted to the Commission on Appointments, Santiago said the syndicate of corrupt military officials was resorting to the "paywar tactic" of convincing the public that she was smearing the whole AFP.

She wrote: "He (Adan) exemplifies the attempt by some in the military to reverse the constitutional provision by, in effect, asserting the supremacy of the military over civilian authority, particularly as personified by the Philippine Congress and the Commission on Appointments. Consequently, he and his military ilk pose a serious danger to our democratic way of life."

Santiago solicited the "vote of disapproval" of the 24-member commission against the confirmation of Adan, who was issued an indefinite appointment on Oct. 20.

The commission's agenda only included the election of its officers, so the matter was not discussed. But each member was given a copy of the senator's letter.

#### Basis for objection

Santiago cited as basis for her objection Adan's statement—"It is wrong for her to say that: It is an insult to the officers corps"—as reported by INQ7.net the other day.

"This statement is not only arrogant and impudent, but also violates the Constitution, Article 2, Section 3, which provides: 'Civilian authority is, at all times, supreme over the military.' A general commits unconstitutional insubordination when he arrogates the power to judge the statements of a senator contained in a privilege speech," she said.

#### 'Panic mode'

Santiago also said Adan and "his cohorts" appeared to be on "panic mode" when the general said she "seems to have conveniently forgotten that her brother (Benjamin Defensor) is a former chief of staff."

She pointed out that the basic principles of debate and argumentation prohibited any resort to personalities, which, she said, was considered a cheap shot and unacceptable in civilized debate. With a report from Juliet Labog-Javellana

## 4 vital gov't witnesses in Nida murder missing

From page A1

military intelligence chief Galileo Kintanar, had been tortured and left for dead before he tried to give his testimony to investigators.

Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez said that the National Bureau of Investigation had lost contact with the witnesses and their families around three months ago, dealing a major setback to the government's case.

The disappearance of the witnesses is also expected to delay further the filing of the second petition for the extradition of principal accused Rod Lauren Strunk, Blanca's husband who is in the United States.

"This will affect the case. We were waiting for them to strengthen our extradition petition. They were substantially vital witnesses," Gonzalez said.

He identified the missing witnesses as Ricardo Alvarez, Roberto Canete and Delfito Molines, all security guards and Alfre-

do "Aldo" Rodriguez, Kintanar's helper who had confessed to helping monitor Blanca's movements before her murder.

Blanca was found dead at the Atlanta Center building in San Juan on Nov. 7, 2001. Alvarez, Canete, and Molines were assigned at the building.

**The search**

Gonzalez said the NBI had checked the witnesses' addresses in Metro Manila and in the provinces. But the four witnesses and their families were nowhere to be found.

"The NBI sent out agents to locate them but, all of a sudden, they could not be located," Gonzalez said. "Strangely, nobody can tell us anymore where they and their families are."

Gonzalez said the NBI needed to prepare the witnesses for their testimony before the Pasig City Regional Trial Court, which is hearing the murder case against Strunk and Philip Medel Jr.

Gonzalez said that while the witnesses

had executed sworn affidavits, their testimony in court was still needed. He said the NBI was not able to secure the witnesses after they gave their sworn statements during the preliminary investigation.

Gonzalez urged anyone to inform the NBI and the DOJ of the whereabouts of the witnesses.

"We want to be sure that these people were not murdered to silence them forever," Gonzalez said.

He said that somebody might have convinced the witnesses to stop cooperating with authorities.

Gonzalez said he was considering placing the witnesses on the NBI wanted list if they did not surface.

**Important witness**

Gonzalez said that Rodriguez was the most important among the four witnesses since he had confessed to monitoring Blanca's movements before the murder.

He noted that somebody also tried to kill Rodriguez in Tarlac when he tried to

approach the authorities after the killing.

"He was manhandled, tortured, and left for dead," Gonzalez said. He did not identify Rodriguez's assailant.

After the attempt on his life, however, Rodriguez sought the NBI's help.

Gonzalez said Rodriguez, who was also a security guard, told the NBI that he, Philip Medel, and engineer Vicente "Dodong" Polinar killed Blanca a week before her murder.

Rodriguez told investigators that Polinar bought an old Mitsubishi Gallant, which was used in the surveillance operation. Rodriguez allegedly drove the Gallant, while Polinar and Medel tailed the actress.

#### Narcom ID

Medel allegedly displayed his Narcom identification card on the rearview mirror whenever the surveillance team parked the car so that the police would not disturb them.

Security guard Rogelio Salutin said he had to go into hiding in August 2002 af-

ter two armed men allegedly identified with Kintanar went looking for him at his apartment.

Salutin claimed to have seen Strunk and Medel at an apartment owned by Kintanar.

#### Kintanar's name surfaces

Kintanar's name surfaced in the investigation when authorities found out he owned the Quezon City apartment where Medel lived.

The retired general's name came up again after two witnesses—retired

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Editor Ester G. Dipasupil ■ Assistant Editor Cenon B. Biba

**MEGALOTTO 6/45**

4 6 17 25 42 45

**QC execs nab 107 erring vendors**

By Tina G. Santos

QUEZON City officials apprehended yesterday 107 vendors in three public markets for allegedly cheating consumers by maintaining defective or unauthorized weighing scales.

City treasurer Victor Endriga said the scales they confiscated from vendors at the Balintawak, Cloverleaf and Muñoz markets were either tampered, defective or unlicensed.

Using a test weight, city officials discovered that the vendors had not been giving the right amount of goods that their customers were paying for.

Endriga said they conducted a surprise inspection following complaints from consumers.

"Weighing scales are very easy to manipulate," Endriga admitted, adding that most of the vendors caught during the public were fish sellers.

Vendors with correct but unlicensed scales were fined P200.

On the other hand, vendors with licensed but defective or tampered scales were made to pay P400 each for the first offense.

For the second offense, violators will be fined P800 while third-time violators will face closure of their stalls, Endriga said.

**Cop dies solving robbery spree**

By Letta B. Sakiverria

POLICE Officer 2 Reynaldo Andres was known to always give his all as a law enforcer.

At 2:30 a.m. yesterday, along Romualdez Street, Ermita, he

gave up even his life responding over and beyond the call of duty.

Andres was the third Manila lawman killed in two weeks. Earlier, Supt. Manolo Martinez was ambushed in Sta. Mesa, while St. Insp. Emmanuel Sanchez died

with his wife in a stabbing incident in Parañaque City.

Andres, an investigator who had been a policeman for five years, left the Ermita station of the Western Police District at 10:30 p.m. Tuesday.

He was supposed to go off duty thirty minutes later at 11 p.m. but left early so he could check on reports of a spate of robberies along Romualdez Street.

Four hours later, Andres and an alleged robber were dead, while

another suspect was seriously wounded following a brief exchange of gunfire.

SPO3 William Gondranos said in his report that Andres was in casual clothes and was riding a scooter when he decided to follow up on the robberies reported to their station.

Police said Andres apparently staked out the street until 2:30 a.m. when he saw two men standing in the dark near Ayala Boulevard.

Andres approached the two men and introduced himself as a policeman. However, one of the two men, Daniel Larora, 30, allegedly drew a .22 caliber revolver and shot the policeman.

Andres was hit in the neck and the right shoulder.

But before he fell, police said he managed to draw his .9 mm service pistol and fire back.

**A stay-in worker**

Larora, a stay-in worker at the Remus Trading Company on Romualdez Street, was hit in the chest and the left side of the body. He reportedly died on the spot.

Larora's companion and co-employee, Sammy Ortigo, 28, was hit in both legs and in the right arm. He was rushed to the Philippine General Hospital for treatment.

Police recovered four spent caliber-22 bullets, four spent 9 mm bullets, Larora's alleged gun and a fan knife from Ortigo.

Andres' firearm was missing.

Colleagues said it was not unusual for Andres to conduct follow-up operations alone, saying he had felt capable of handling cases alone.

**Brave and hardworking**

Andres was detailed with the mobile patrol unit before being assigned to the Ermita station.

Colleagues described him as brave, kind and hardworking.

They believe that his diligence prompted him to stake out Romualdez Street even after his shift had ended.

Desk officer SPO2 Rolando Nicolas said Andres usually reported for work half an hour early for his 3 p.m. shift and at times left hours after his shift had ended.

"He worked hard and was very friendly. He is a great loss," Nicolas said of Andres in Filipino.



QUEZON City officials examine dozens of reportedly tampered or illegal weighing scales confiscated from vendors in the city. EDDIE BACASMAS

**School principal swap stirs up Tondo teachers**

By Tarra V. Quismundo

**TO SWITCH or not to switch?**

Confusion reigned in two Manila high schools yesterday as one of their principals, who had been scheduled to trade places with a colleague, appeared hesitant to do so.

The Division of City Schools of Manila said yesterday that Alice Blas, formerly of Lakandula High School in Tondo, Manila, was supposed to assume the post as principal of Nolasco

**High School today.**

Blas had volunteered to be reassigned to another school to reduce the tension between her and Lakandula teachers who were against the privatization of their school canteen. The school division recently said the contract Blas had entered into with a private contractor regarding the management of the canteen was legal. The teachers had insisted that their cooperative should continue running the canteen.

Olimpiada Camilo, Nolasco

High School principal, had been assigned to take Blas' place at Lakandula. "They should report to the division office today for the formal turnover, but they have already received their transfer assignments," said Isabelita Santos, assistant division superintendent for secondary schools.

Despite the decision favoring Blas the principal had asked for a reassignment, saying she was concerned about "the students' welfare." The division had approved her request, and Blas was

immediately transferred to Nolasco. But Blas had a change of heart yesterday. "I could recant my transfer," she told the *Inquirer*. "As far as I know, I am on leave starting Oct. 28 until January, and I will not report to work."

Blas said she had applied for a leave from the school division. Santos said they had received the application, but the papers had not yet been processed.

Blas claimed she was just "pressured" into asking for a transfer, adding that she felt she

had to stay in Lakandula to put the school in order.

Nolasco teachers, meanwhile, have filed a petition in the school division seeking Camilo's retention, citing that their principal had performed well in her two year stay at the school.

Santos, however, said Division Superintendent Luisa Quiñones had already made her decision about Blas' appeal for a transfer.

"We must explain to the teachers that the transfer would have to take effect," Santos added.

**Upsilon-Sigma Delta holds reunion**

BATCH '64 of the Upsilon Sigma Phi and the Sigma Delta Phi will hold a grand reunion to celebrate their 40th anniversary.

There will be a dinner-dance at Ang Bahay ng Alumni Center in Diliman, Quezon City tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. All Upsilonians and Sigma Deltans are invited. For details, call Ben Tabin, cell no. 0917-8470918 or tel. 433-1365.

**When coup rumors abound**

SEN Rodolfo Biazon said at least three generals were planning to stage a coup in the wake of the corruption scandal in the Armed Forces.

I have no doubt Biazon was telling the truth about the plot since he still maintains contact with old buddies at the AFP where he was once chief of staff.

But Biazon should not be gullible enough to believe that retired generals can still stage a coup d'état. Who will follow them in their charge at the windmills?

No matter how powerful a general or colonel is when he is in the service, he loses power once he steps down. True, his former subordinates still salute him, but they won't follow him as they would if he was still in the active service.

Those retired generals were just hallucinating when they hatched the coup plot. Let them be since everyone is entitled to his flight of fancy.

Coup rumors abound whenever a crisis or scandal besets the nation.

Top leaders in government should be thankful for the coup rumors. The more rumors circulate about an impending power grab, the more our leaders should cheer.

Coup rumors are like

**ON TARGET**  
 Ramon Tulfo

safety valve. The more rumors there are that a coup is about to take place, the less likely it will happen. Barking dogs don't bite.

\*\*\*

President Macapagal-Arroyo's pledge to check the country's runaway population growth will not endear her to local prelates of the Roman Catholic Church.

The Church, which mediates in the affairs of government, opposes artificial contraceptives. It advocates only the rhythm method.

But the only way for the government to address the population problem is to propagate artificial contraceptives like pills and condoms.

The President should stand firm against possible pressure from the Church. Her stand on population will determine whether the country will become prosperous or get further mired in poverty in the coming years.

Dipping into the food allowance of inmates is the main source of graft at the BJMP.

ulation is left unchecked, we will be a population of 160 million within a decade.

Imagine a boat that can hold only three persons having 20 passengers. What do you think will happen to the boat? It will sink. That will happen to the country if more people are taken aboard the Philippine ship.

So, Madame President, ignore the priests and bishops who pressure you on family planning because they don't get blamed when things get bad.

Besides, priests and bishops should not make rules where they don't have the expertise. Family planning is not right down their alley because they're supposed to be celibate.

The allegations that some officials of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology were pocketing the food allowance of inmates could be true.

One BJMP official was able to build a mansion in Baguio City. He has a fleet of luxury cars.

Don't tell me he was able to build that mansion and buy many luxury cars with his salary.

Coups rumors are like

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**BASEBALL** MLB World Series Red Sox vs Cardinals, Game 4: 8 a.m. (r-4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.); ESPN - Will 88 years of frustration finally end for Boston or will St. Louis stay alive?

**BASKETBALL** NBA Pre Season Games - Pistons vs Celtics; 7 a.m. (r-8 p.m.); Solar Sports - Distracting champion Detroit takes on Boston in this warm-up for the regular season.



THURSDAY,  
OCTOBER 28, 2004

Compiled by L. Mangulat

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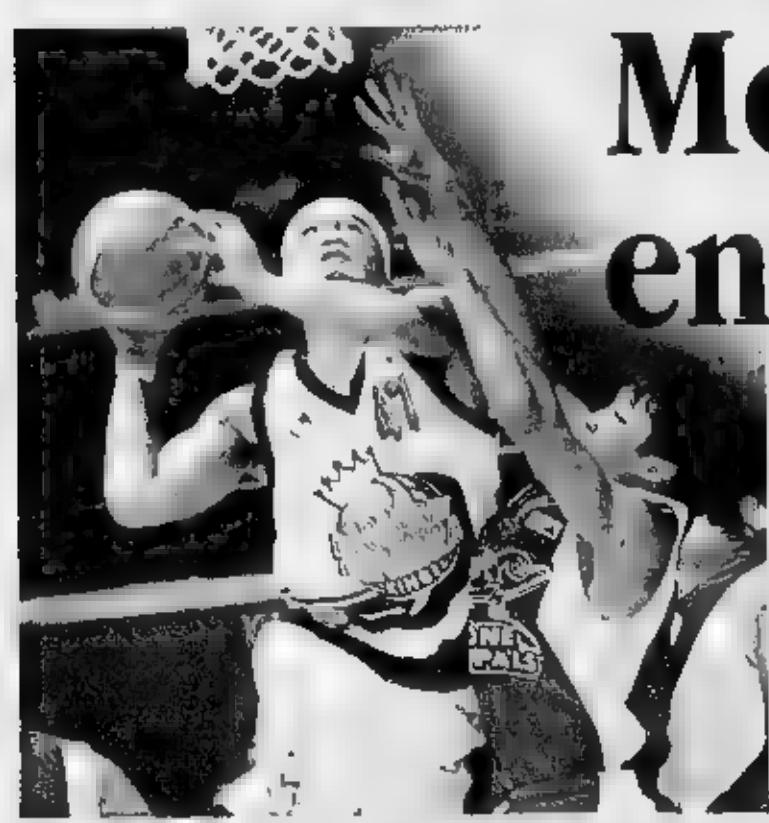
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# SPORTS

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MARK Caguioa of Ginebra defies the umbrella defense of Patrick Fran of Talk 'N Text in their game won by the Kings, 91-80, last night.

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

## Magnolia-FEU faces Toyota Otis for lead

**GAMES TODAY**  
(Pasig Sports Center)  
2 p.m.—Magnolia vs Toyota  
Oils-Letran  
4 p.m.—Welco vs Montaña  
Open Championship at the Pasig Sports Center

TWO college powerhouses fight for the early lead when Magnolia-FEU and Toyota Otis-Letran collide today in the PBL. In the second game, Welcoat Paintmakers and Montaña Pawnshop try to recover lost ground when they clash at 4 p.m.

Magnolia outlasted Montaña in double overtime, 82-75, in their opening game last Saturday. Arwind Santos, the reigning PBL and UAAP MVP delivered a big game with 15 points and 19 rebounds.

Meanwhile, Mac Cardona and Jerwin Gaco escaped with just a reprimand from commissioner Chino Trinidad and will suit up for ICTSI-La Salle when they meet rival Adelit Mobile-Arenaeo on Saturday.

Cardona was ejected last Tuesday for elbowing Granny Goose's Marvin Cruz while Gaco was slapped, an unsportsmanlike foul for hitting Toti Almeda. *Jasmine W. Payo*

Musong R. Castillo

ERIC Menk scored 22 points and grabbed 27 rebounds as Barangay Ginebra dealt a short-handed Talk 'N Text side its first loss, 91-80, in the Gran Matador PBA Philippine Cup last night at the Araneta Coliseum.

The breakout game of Menk for the tournament came against a team that won all its five previous games.

Averaging just seven points, Menk proved unstoppable as the Phone Pals failed to plug the hole created by the absence of Asi Taulava due to a dispute over his citizenship.

**GAME TODAY**  
(University of San Agustin Gym, Iloilo City)  
6 p.m.—Shell vs. Alaska

His 27 rebounds were just two shy of the all-time record by a local registered by Seven-Up's Marcelo Simbulan in 1975.

"He's been gutting it out," said coach Sito Tanquingcen of his hard-working center, who missed just four of 13 shots from the field.

In the second game, John Arigo had 17 points while Ali Peet had 14 in their debuts with Coca-Cola, which routed FedEx, 84-67.

Meanwhile, Shell (4-1) shoots for a share of the early lead with the Phone Pals today when it battles Alaska (1-3) in another out-of-town sortie in Iloilo presented by Lactovitale, the official food

supplement of the PBA road show.

The scores:

**GINEBRA** 91—Menk 22, Santos 15, Caguioa 14, Adduci 12, Halilbrand 12, Selig 9, Dimauaham 4, Noble 3, Salvador 2.

**TALK 'N TEXT** 80—Miller 17, Atapag 16, De Campo 12, Telan 10, Pablo 8, Belano 7, Salangsang 6, Ravena 2, Camaso 2.

**Quarters:** 24-25, 44-46, 65-62, 91-80.

**Second game:**

**COCACOLA** 84—Peet 19, Arigo 17, Park 14, Abanteles 11, David B. Wainwright 5, Morano 5, Julio 2, Aniceto 2, Chito 0.

**FEDEX** 67—Gonzales 14, Fentrol 10, Se 10, Pingris 9, De Ocampo 8, Rituado 6, Billones 4, Arboleda 4, Codilla 2, Ejercito 0, Sison 0, Yapo 0.

**Quarters:** 22-18, 41-32, 64-52, 84-67.

## DOJ wants judge out of 'Fil-sham' case

By Philip C. Tubeza

JUSTICE Secretary Raul Gonzalez yesterday said the Department of Justice would ask the Manila judge hearing the deportation case of Barangay Ginebra's Alex Crisano to inhibit himself from the case.

Judge Marcelino Sayo, according to Gon-

zalez, had allegedly issued hastily a temporary restraining order on Tuesday against the deportation of Crisano, one of five foreign-born players in the Philippine Basketball Association declared by DOJ last Oct. 18 as 'Fil-shams' for faking their citizenship papers.

He said the DOJ was not properly notified about the hearing and was not able to prepare

its opposition to Crisano's petition.

As this developed, MRTC Branch 50 judge William Simon Peralta yesterday issued an order for status quo on the preliminary injunction being sought by Coca-Cola cager Rudy Hatfield pending the submission of a written pleading of a petition from the Office of the Solicitor General.

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# Saragoza pads lead with a 68

By Musong R. Castillo

CANLUBANG—Boyet Saragoza pulled further away from the field by shooting a four-under 68 at the North Course yesterday to take a seven-stroke lead heading into the final 36 holes of the Canlubang Amateurs.

The pint-sized 31-year-old gunned down six birdies in a 33-35 round and moved closer to clinching a second win in three weeks with a 10-under 134 total counting his opening round 66.

Saragoza hit all but two fairways and missed just one green, the long par 4 13th for his second bogey. He earlier gave back a stroke on the par-3 sixth when he three-putted from 15 feet.

Trailing the winner of the Samsung Championships in Malarayat two weeks ago was Canlubang teammate Ronnie Torrecampo, who assembled a 69 to claim second spot at 141.

Korean teenager Kim Chang Hoi also had a 69 and moved to third, eight strokes off the lead even as Marvin Dumandan signed for a level 72 to stay at 1-under 143 and drop to fourth from third.

Raymund Sangil ballooned to a 78 after a 69 Tuesday, falling four rungs to fifth with a 147 total.

Former RP Amateur champion Dave Hernandez barged into the top 10 after a 71. The golf course manager of Calatagan course now has a 150 total for eighth spot.



**UP HIGH QUAD GOLF:** Lawyer Tim Abejo of UP High School 1979 swings it during the Quad Golf Open tournament at the Valley Golf Club in Antipolo, Rizal, recently. Abejo's flightmates includes former President Fidel V. Ramos (left), the guest of honor.

## Ateneo de Davao wins

DAVAO CITY—Ateneo de Davao's cagers downed Sacred Heart, 83-76, to retain the Passerelle title, but their younger counterparts lost the SBP crown to Ateneo de Zamboanga, 46-51, Sunday in the Milo BEST Mindanao regional finals at the Almendras gym here.

The AdeD boys took the half, 36-24, but the AdeZ youngsters had to overcome a 21-27 deficit at the turn. Marist (Notre Dame) trimmed Xavier University, 62-56, and Ateneo de Zamboanga crushed Marist, 69-54, to finish third in the SBP and Passerelle divisions, respectively.

# Paraplegics hold Pinoys to 2-2 tie

Croatia, Turkey, Singapore, IPCA, Tajikistan and Austria.

With three rounds left, the Filipinos' bid to duplicate their seventh place finish in 1988 in Thessaloniki, Greece appears dim, considering that they trail seventh-running Poland by 3.5 points.

But a Top 20 finish is still within reach, depending on how the Filipinos perform against neighboring Singapore Wednesday in the 12th round.

Team captain Sammy Estimo, visibly shaken by RP's inability to put away the 74th-ranked IPCA, is expected to field the regular board players against a team they beat handily in Bled, Slovenia two years ago.

Grandmaster Eugene Torre, fresh from a two-day break, will be back to man the first board.

Antonio, the only undefeated player in the team, mans the second board, while Paragua gets a chance to recover when he plays white at board three. Gonzales, who has lost only once in nine matches, completes the lineup.

Coming off a self-imposed four-game rest, Antonio used the Alapin to crush the Sicilian defense of Markku Pukkila in 38 moves. In women's play, the Philippines and Mexico battled to a 1.5-1.5 tie with Women IM Beverly Mendoza providing the lone win against WIM Joara Chaves. Rookie Loreshyl Cuzon drew with Evandra Cruz. Women FIDE Master Sheerie Joy Lomibao lost to Suzana Chang in the top board.

## Alex reaches poker semis

FILIPINO-CANADIAN pool ace Alex Pagulayan is now in the semi-finals of a \$500,000 poker tournament among sports celebrities.

Representing billiards, Pagulayan won his qualifying table of 6 celebrities to make it through the first round of the "Pacificpoker.com European Open," Europe's richest televised poker tournament, promoted by Matchroom Sport on Challenge TV.

The other celebrities included Steve Davis, a top darts player, and TV presenters. Pagulayan took his place in the first round proper on a table of 6 including Matchroom Sport President Barry Hearn and four professional poker players. All had paid the \$10,000 entry fee which Alex won. The semifinal takes place on Nov. 5.

## Paro, Fuentes vs Thais today

By Salven L. Lagumbay

PHILIPPINE No. 4 super flyweight Sherwin Paro and No. 5 mini fly Rocky Fuentes will vie for World Boxing Organization Asia Pacific titles today against Thai champions in Thailand's Uthradth province.

The lanky 23-year-old Paro (14-3, 9 KOs), a protege of Cebu businessman Tony Aldeguer and Marry Elorde, challenges reigning champ Pramuansak Phosawan in a 12-round bout.

The Cebu-born Fuentes (8-1, 5 KOs), a former national amateur champ, takes on WBO No. 3 Kaichon Sor Vorapin, younger brother of WBO bantam king Ratanachai Sor Vorapin, for the vacant light fly title.

Pramuansak, ranked WBO No. 2, won a gold medal in the 1998 Asian Games and also competed in the Olympic Games twice in 1996 and 2000. He will be making the 14th defense of his crown against Paro.

## Outdoor Quest opens in Sabah

OUTDOOR Quest, the only international adventure race in Asia that has been instrumental in the growing popularity of the sport in the region, comes off the wraps today in Sabah, Malaysia, with 21 of the world's elite adventure racing teams competing.

Now on its eighth edition, the race will feature seven events—running, mountain biking, kayaking, paddling, in-line skating, team biathlon and adventure skills. Awaiting the winning team after the completion of the event on Nov. 2 is the top prize of \$75,500 from the total prize of \$255,000.

Competing in this year's event, set over five stages, are teams from New Zealand, Finland, Switzerland, Australia, Malaysia, China, Japan, the United States and Sweden. A team from the Philippines was supposed to compete but withdrew due to lack of sponsors.

The competing teams will cover the pristine beaches of Sabah to the highest peak of Malaysia's Mount Kinabalu.

Lending the field in the event supported by the Malaysian Ministry of Youth and Sports, Sabah Tourism Board, Malaysia Airlines, Suunto, Nexus Resort Karambunai, Spritzer, Wall's and Mera Pharmaceuticals is defending champion Team Seagate of New Zealand.

**Government Warning:  
Cigarette Smoking is Dangerous to Your Health.**

## Pedro done with Boston?

ST. LOUIS, Missouri—Pedro Martinez pitched the Boston Red Sox to the brink of their first World Series title since 1918 in what could be his farewell appearance for the club.

Minutes after a 4-1 victory over St. Louis here Tuesday in his Series debut, the 33-year-old Dominican right-hander began making a pitch for a new contract and talking about the Red Sox as if his time with the team were done.

"It has been a great ride," Martinez said. "I hope everybody enjoyed it as much as I did. I enjoyed my career in Boston."

"I hope I get another chance to come back. But if I don't, I understand the business part of it."

Martinez made his case for a new deal, but he also is being wooed by the New York Yankees, whose \$183-million payroll is the only budget beyond Boston's \$150-million bank-buster.

"I hope many other people understand I wasn't the one who wanted to leave," Martinez said. "I'm only doing what I have to do. And they are going to have their chances to get me back in that uniform. If they don't get me it's probably because they didn't try hard enough."

"My heart is with Boston. My emotions are always going to be there," said Martinez. "I'm just going to do whatever possible to remain here."

APP

## Bernis leads RP squad in Hong Kong tourney

By Muñoz R. Castillo

TWO PHILIPPINE teams of three players each tee off in separate parts of the globe today and tomorrow. Reigning Philippine Amateur champion Jun Bernis, dropped from the World Amateurs squad because of US visa woes, settles for a stint in the Hong Kong Open Amateur championship starting today along with Erwin Vinluan and former caddies' winner Jay Bayron.

Bernis will be the last member of Team RP to tee off at the Hong Kong Golf Club's New Course together with Syren Johnstone and Mark Fisher at 7:50 a.m.

Vinluan is in the tournament's first flight together with Tim Orgill and Arnold Wong at 7:30 while Bayron plays with Tim Yuen Lee and Simon Shewell in the 7:40 a.m. group.

Tommy Manotoc and son Matthew are also playing in the individual side of the tournament.

Meanwhile, the A-Team that has worked long and hard for the World Amateurs in Puerto Rico plays its final practice round today still in high

spirits despite the expected tough competition.

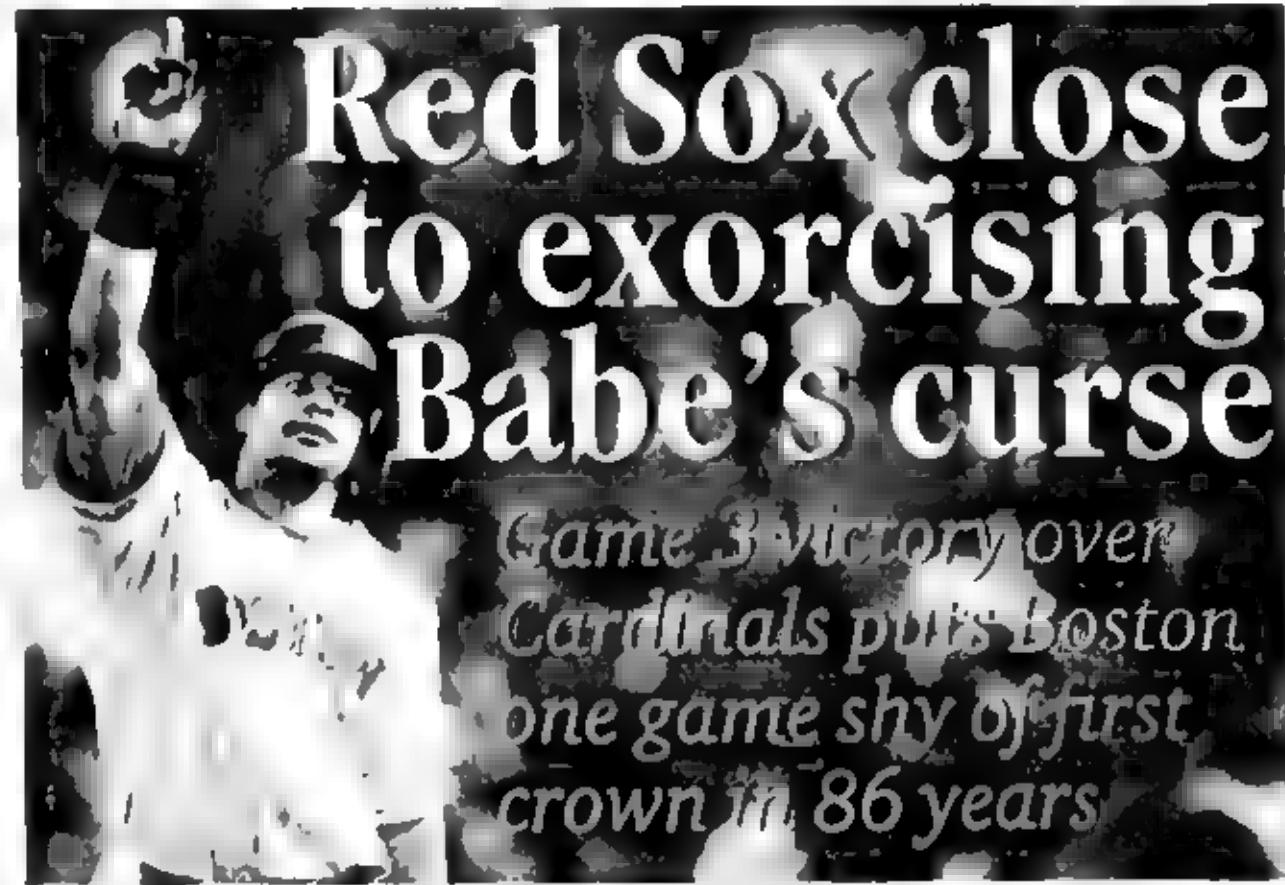
"We are doing well in practice," said Artemio Murakami, who replaced Bernis, in an overseas interview with the Inquirer. "We've had three practice rounds so far. The course is long and tough. But we have been playing well, specially Juvic (Pagunsan)."

The Ocean and River courses of the Rio Mar Resort will be the sites of the world joust and Murakami said that they are now far different venues from the ones that the ladies played last week with both courses stretched to more than 7,000 yards.

"It is hazard-laden and very long," said Murakami, who won the RP Amateur as a 15-year-old in 1999 and is in his first stint as a national team player.

Michael Bibet is the third member of the team that is looking to improve on a best-ever third place finish in the biennia event achieved twice before, in Hong Kong in the 1980s and in Malaysia two years ago.

Both tournaments will use the three-to-play, two-to-count format.



MANNY Ramirez celebrates after hitting a solo home run in the first inning.

ST. LOUIS—Only a curse can stop the Boston Red Sox now—and they know all about such things.

With their baseball stars and lucky stars aligned, the Red Sox beat the St. Louis Cardinals, 4-1, Tuesday and moved within one win of their first World Series championship since 1918.

Then again, historic collapses are part of their legend.

No one knows better than the Red Sox that a 3-0 lead can be overcome; they just did it to the New York Yankees. And no one knows better than the Red Sox how elusive that last win can be; four times they've been one win away and four times they've lost.

"We're not going to relax that much," Boston starter Pedro Martinez said. "I don't think our team's going to relax as much as the Yankees were."

Martinez made his long-awaited Series debut a special one, bailed out when Manny Ramirez and David Ortiz did as much damage with their arms as bats. Backed by the surprising show of defense, Boston made it look too easy.

"It is big, but we learned our lesson against the Yankees," Ramirez said.

So after being only three outs away from getting swept last week, Boston is on the verge of sweeping the club that led the majors in wins this year and claiming the ultimate prize.

"It's something you've got to notice it's possible," Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said.

"I think the one thing I'm absolutely confident about is that we've come too far to give an effort that will embarrass anybody tomorrow," he said.

Derek Lowe will try to finish it off for Boston on Wednesday night, starting against Jason Marquis in Game 4.

"We don't want people to think this Series is over," Lowe said.

Still, Red Sox fans gathered around the Boston dugout and chanted "One more win!" after the final out. A sign was also curiously posted on a side scoreboard at Busch Stadium: "Thanks for a great 2004 season."

A victory in Game 4 will end an 86-year-old title drought, one blamed on the "Curse of the Bambino," which started when the Sox sold Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees.

AP

1 day to go!

## SEAG venues known today

By Marc Anthony Reyes

WHERE the 41 sports for next year's Southeast Asian Games will be held will be known when the Philippine Southeast Asian Games Organizing Committee (Phisoc) meets today.

Among the main concerns during the 9 a.m. meeting at the Philippine Sports Commission is the venue for swimming and boat races and the extent of renovations to be done on the PSC facilities like the Rizal Memorial track and football stadium and the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

Phisoc venues chief Red Dumuk yesterday said at least four sites are being considered for swimming, a centerpiece event like athletics, which will offer 45 gold medals.

The candidates are the old Rizal swimming pool, which reportedly needs at least P1.5 million to meet the SEAG standards, the Puraad Sports Complex in Bacolod, the pool in San Pablo City and another in Makati City.

"We have to come up with an official list of venues at least one year before the 2005 Games begins," said Dumuk.

## PLATINUM CUP Olympic hosts North elims

THE FINAL qualifiers for the grand finals of the inaugural Battle of the Courts' National Inter-Club Platinum Cup will be known this weekend when the eliminations wind up with the North area competitions at the Olympic Badminton Center in Libis, Quezon City.

The North sector is the biggest of the four area eliminations of the Platinum Cup co-presented by Inquirer Badminton and Globe Platinum with 18 courts in Quezon City scheduled to compete for the slots at stake.

Entered are Woosh, Libis Badminton Center, Serve N Smash, Battledore & Shuttcock, Yellow Feather, Chut, Tost N Smash, Sureplay Murphy, Sureplay Araneta, Don Antonio Sports Center, Banawa Badminton Arcade, Star Smash, Celebrity Sports, Greencourt, C4, Premiere City Club, Pinocchio and Olympic.

Major sponsors include Philippine Airlines Mabuhay Miles, Mizuno Badminton and LTime Studio. Nestle is the official

drink provider, Gerflor Taraflex the official mat sponsor, Gosen the official shuttlecock, Westin Philippine Plaza the official hotel.

Already in the finals of the country's first showdown among badminton courts and facilities set on Nov. 20-21 at the Market Market at the Bonifacio Global City are the top two finishers in the first three area eliminations.

They are Valle Verde Country Club and Player's Best for the East, Alabang and Anvil for the South and Manila Polo Club and The Zone which ruled last week's Central area eliminations.

They will be joined by the qualifiers this weekend and the three seeded teams from the south (Pohang of Bacolod, Metro Sports of Cebu and Holiday Spa/Bangayan of Davao) in the finals.

Club entered will compete in the men's doubles, ladies doubles and mixed doubles. They will be aiming for the No. 1 spot in their respective groups to get a chance of securing tickets to the finals.

## SPOREWATCH

### Manila Sanitarium benefit golf tourney

THE MANILA Adventist Medical Center (formerly the Manila Sanitarium and Hospital) in cooperation with the Manila Sanitarium Foundation Inc. will hold the Sixth Invitational Golf Tournament at the Riviera Golf and Country Club, Siang, Cavite, today. Tee-off time is 8 a.m. For information, contact 536-3677 or 527-9191 local 106.

### Kiamco gains 9-ball quarters

LITTLE known Israel Rota missed an easy shot on the No. 4 ball in the 13th frame, allowing fellow Cebuano Warren Kiamco to escape with a 9-4 victory in the round of 16 of the Motolite 9-Ball Philippine Open at the Casino Filipino Amphitheater in Parañaque City yesterday. Kiamco moved to the quarterfinals today, against Ramil Gallego, who routed Bobby Petiza, 9-0. Alain Dulao nipped Jerry Guerra, 9-5, while Roberto Dy bested Victor Arpide, 9-5. —Marie Bernallo

### Ticala reaches badminton 3rd round

RIZAL High's Angelo Ticala beat Sto. Nino School's John Librato, 7-15, 15-13, 15-4, yesterday to reach the boys' 12-under singles third round in the 2004 Toby's Age-Group Badminton Championships at the La Salle-Greenhills gym. Ticala will meet Palm Crest School's Carl John Amorsolo, who scored a 15-1, 15-1 victory over Marist's Nathan Tabonas. In other matches, PNP's Peter Gabriel Magnaye downed Marist's Erickson Bautista, 15-2, 15-1, while GCBC's Ivan Angustico thumped Dean Potenciano, 15-1, 15-0.

### Pharmaton-Runnex Executive Run

EVERYTHING is set for the Pharmaton-Runnex 10K Classic Executive on Dec. 12 at the UP Diliman Campus. Sponsored by Pharmaton, the 10K and 5K runs will highlight the 21st anniversary of the Executive Runners Club (Runnex) Philippines Inc. The races, which start at 6 a.m., are limited to professionals, businessmen and members of the Officers Corps, AFP and PNP aged 29-above. For details, call 3714445, 248-0286, 251-8742, 366-9367, 523-0357 or 822-7502.

## Burlington joins PBA's Campus Tour anew



THE COCA-COLA Tigers and the Lyceum Pirates go through the ceremonial tip during one of the campus tours.

BURLINGTON will again join hands with the Philippine Basketball Association for another staging of the Campus Tour, an exhibition series pitting professional teams against varsity squads.

"The Campus Tour is very much in line with the thrust of Burlington to get youth into sports and further develop their skills," said Burlington general manager Rudy Tan.

The 10 PBA squads will visit various campuses and play against UAAP and NCAA teams.

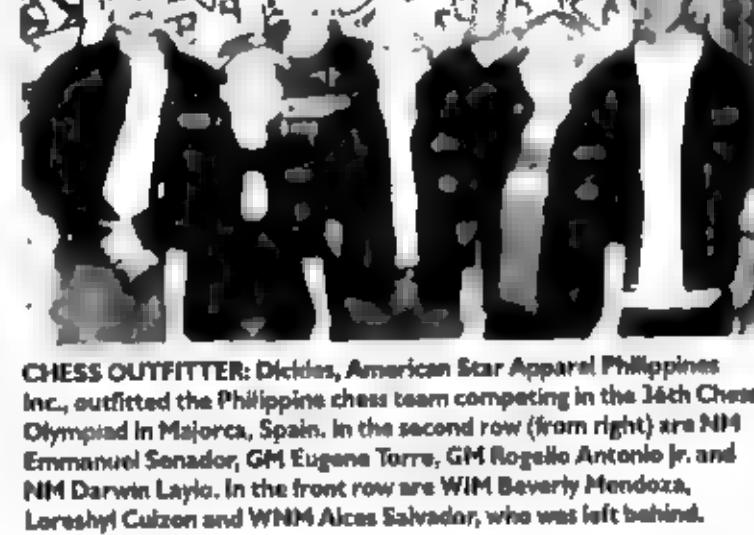
But aside from the games, Burlington, which introduced a revolutionary product—the Burlington Shock XT designed with extra pads

to absorb impact and prevent foot injuries—will host a 45-minute basketball clinic under coach Norman Black to initiate a skills development program among the spectators.

Burlington will allow the audience to interact with Black and his assistants during the clinic.

Traditionally, the Campus Tour involves a PBA team playing against a school where one of its resident superstars study.

This gives students a chance to see their former varsity players suit up against the current crop of standouts representing their schools.



CHESS OUTFITTER: Dickies, American Star Apparel Philippines Inc., outfitted the Philippine chess team competing in the 34th Chess Olympiad in Majorca, Spain. In the second row (from right) are NM Emmanuel Senador, GM Eugenio Torre, GM Rogelio Antonio Jr. and NM Darviel Laylo. In the front row are WIM Beverly Mendoza, Loreshyl Culzun and WNM Alice Salvador, who was left behind.

# ENTERTAINMENT

JOLINA'S BOYFRIEND A LAWYER /A28

Accurate.  
Hard-hitting.

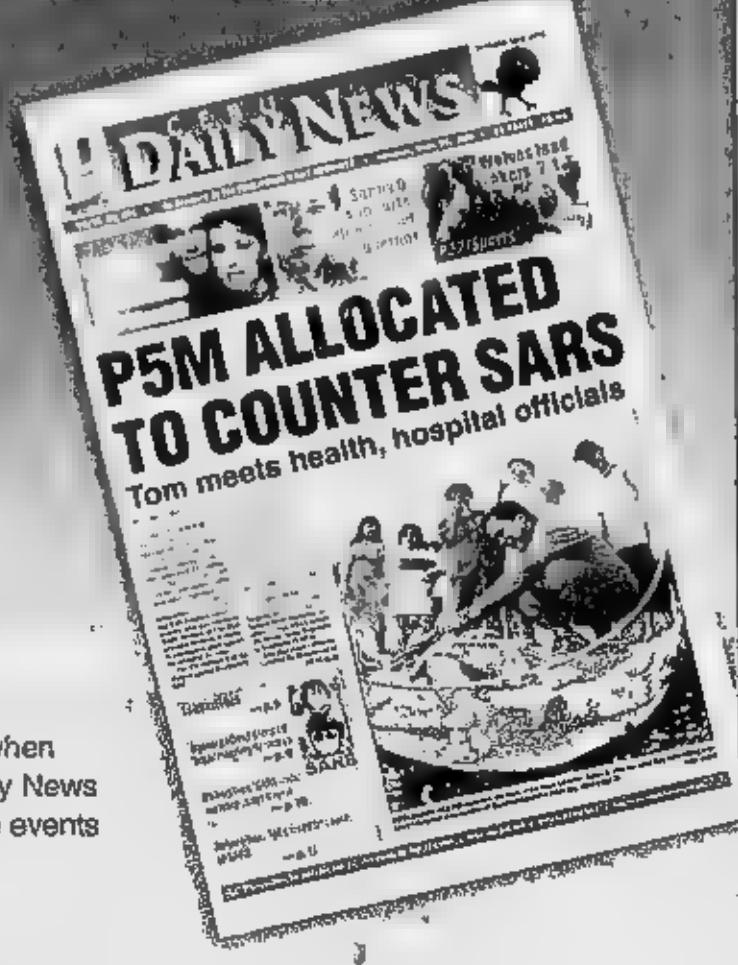
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Local news comes alive when the Cebu Daily News chronicles the events and lives of a fast-changing community

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1	The Grudge
2	Before Sunset
3	Superbabies: Baby Geniuses 2
4	White Chicks
5	Shark Tale
6	Doll Master
7	Cellular



Even a rug would look good on Kristine /A26

'The Grudge' scares up money at box office /A25

events! events!

**HALO-HALO! BACK TO BACK ENTERTAINMENT FINDS!**

OCTOBER 28  
4 PM  
Activity Center  
8th of Manila  
2003's Best New Group Awit Awardee

OCTOBER 30  
3 PM  
Activity Center  
Junior Inquirer's  
Halloween Children's Party

OCTOBER 30  
3:30 PM  
Central Plaza  
McDonald's  
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Channel		12:00PM	1:00PM	2:00PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	6:00PM	8:00PM	9:00PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	
ABS-CBN		Sarah The Tots	Maid In Heaven	Sandara's Romance	Tokyo Underground	Smartie X	Get Backers	Reprah	TV Patrol	Star Circle Hall	Kristie	Hines	It Might Be You	Maganda Ma Kaya
BNB	Max Value	Pro-Gems Show	PBA	One Piece	Rune Soldier	Stom Dunk	24 Oars	The Working President	Ton Ouch	Upgrading Pantawid	Tokidayo	Big Head	Secrets	Inq TV
ABC	I Promised You, Sayo Ko Laya (2:45 PM)	Joyce (2:15 PM)	Two Blank 100% Schools	Dhyan Al Bayan	Wid Trombones	Sponge Bob	Invader Zim	Entertainment Tonight	Sabrina	Entertainment Tonight	Milkman (7:30 PM)	Mark	Starstruck (8:30 PM)	Forever In My Heart (9:20 PM)
GMA	Home Shopping Network	Home Shopping Network	Home Shopping Network	Home Shopping Network	IBC Express Bistro	Home Shopping Network	Home Shopping Network	Entertainment Tonight	Japan Video Topic	Entertainment Tonight	Monk	Roxanne	Megadreamers	Magdalens
RPN	Metro TV Shopping	Metro TV Shopping	Metro TV Shopping	Metro TV Shopping	Motorcycle	Godzilla	Manos	Entertainment Tonight	Entertainment Tonight	Entertainment Tonight	Entertainment Tonight	Entertainment Tonight	Entertainment Tonight	Entertainment Tonight
BBC	Home Shopping Network	Home Shopping Network	Home Shopping Network	Home Shopping Network	WWE Smackdown	WWE Smackdown	WWE Smackdown	Entertainment Tonight	Entertainment Tonight	Entertainment Tonight	Entertainment Tonight	Entertainment Tonight	Entertainment Tonight	Entertainment Tonight
Solar	Don, The Explorer	Willow	Busi Chell	GeorgeBob SquarePants	All That	Are You Afraid of the Dark?	100 Deeds of Eddie McDowell	Are You Afraid of the Dark?	Family Old Fashioned	Family Old Fashioned	Family Old Fashioned	All That	100 Deeds of Eddie McDowell	Rocket Power
Nickelodeon	Good Morning Miami	What I Like About You	The Today Show	Alvin and the Chipmunks	Blazing Over	Blazing Over	Blazing Over	Blazing Over	Blazing Over	Blazing Over	Blazing Over	Blazing Over	Blazing Over	Blazing Over
ETC	I'm Sorry I Love You	The Gold & The Beau	Urban Mixx	4MX Backstage	LMAP	Asian Jungsang	Magnishol	Modern Evolution	Star Searcher	Vintage Watchup	Barbie Nights	Barbie Nights	Barbie Nights	Barbie Nights
Chion One	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty
Studio 23	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty	Guilty
ANN	Successful II	Successful II	Hollywood Squares	Hollywood Squares	Home Improvement	Home Improvement	Home Improvement	Home Improvement	Home Improvement	Home Improvement	Home Improvement	Home Improvement	Home Improvement	Home Improvement
Star World	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau	The Gold & The Beau
CNN	Business International	Business International	Business International	Business International	Business International	Business International	Business International	Business International	Business International	Business International	Business International	Business International	Business International	Business International
National Geographic	On Assignment	On Assignment	On Assignment	On Assignment	On Assignment	On Assignment	On Assignment	On Assignment	On Assignment	On Assignment	On Assignment	On Assignment	On Assignment	On Assignment
Lifestyle Network	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall	Recyclers Of The Fall
HBO	Cardinal	Cardinal	Cardinal	Cardinal	Cardinal	Cardinal	Cardinal	Cardinal	Cardinal	Cardinal	Cardinal	Cardinal	Cardinal	Cardinal
Star Movies	The Manly Man	The Manly Man	The Manly Man	The Manly Man	The Manly Man	The Manly Man	The Manly Man	The Manly Man	The Manly Man	The Manly Man	The Manly Man	The Manly Man	The Manly Man	The Manly Man
Cartoon Network	Sticky-Doo Show	The All-Natural Poppy Show	Tom & Jerry Show	Tom & Jerry Show	Silvester & Terry Mysterians	The Curse Of Jack Sparrow	Despicable Me	Despicable Me	Despicable Me	Despicable Me	Despicable Me	Despicable Me	Despicable Me	Despicable Me
EPM	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A	X-Games X-Day 4 Part 1A
Disney Channel	It's Possible	It's Possible	It's Possible	It's Possible	It's Possible	It's Possible	It's Possible	It's Possible	It's Possible	It's Possible	It's Possible	It's Possible	It's Possible	It's Possible
Cinemax	Doctor Who (7:15 PM)	A Perfect Score	Play With Me	The Polar King	Business School	Business School	Business School	Business School	Business School	Business School	Business School	Business School	Business School	Business School
Hallmark Channel	Mad About You	Mad About You	Mad About You	Mad About You	Mad About You	Mad About You	Mad About You	Mad About You	Mad About You	Mad About You	Mad About You	Mad About You	Mad About You	Mad About You
Discovery Channel	Hour Asia	Hour Asia	Hour Asia	Hour Asia	Hour Asia	Hour Asia	Hour Asia	Hour Asia	Hour Asia	Hour Asia	Hour Asia	Hour Asia	Hour Asia	Hour Asia
MTV Philippines	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel	MTV Asia Hotel
EWTV	Pageant To The Stars Of Europe	The Captain Of Drive McFly	Flat-Topas Live	Flat-Topas Live	Flat-Topas Live	Flat-Topas Live	Flat-Topas Live	Flat-Topas Live	Flat-Topas Live	Flat-Topas Live	Flat-Topas Live	Flat-Topas Live	Flat-Topas Live	Flat-Topas Live

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Ang Joyong Tagapagbaband ng wlat-pangamulan,

10:30PM na! Tuning In Philippines

Aking kababitaan  
Cheri Mercado

Dito Lang sa ABC





SARAH Michelle Gellar plays an American architecture student in a haunted house in Tokyo in "The Grudge."

## 'The Grudge' terrorizes box office competition

LOS ANGELES—Fright flick "The Grudge," directed by Japan's Takashi Shimizu, shook up the North American box office last weekend by scaring up more money than any other film, final figures showed Monday.

**SHOW TIME** The horror film starring US actress Sarah Michelle Gellar seriously surprised the competition to take a total of \$39.1

million and first place in the weekly ranking, box office trackers Exhibitor Relations said.

The movie tells the story of a US architecture student, played by "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" star Gellar, who lives in a haunted house outside Tokyo.

The movie is the latest twist on Shimizu's "Ju-On" series of films.

The original Japanese film, which was released straight to video, built up a cult following in the United States through the Internet and underground video distribution.

It took box office watchers by surprise by ending the three-week box office reign of the animated story of marine gangsters "Shark Tale."

"Shark Tale," the story of a family of fishy mobsters starring the voices of Renée Zellweger, Will Smith, Angelina Jolie and Robert de Niro, dropped to second place, taking \$14.3 million, the box office tracker said.

"Shall We Dance," a romantic comedy starring Richard Gere, Jennifer Lopez and Susan Sarandon, snatched third place in its opening weekend, taking \$8.6 million in the United States and Canada.

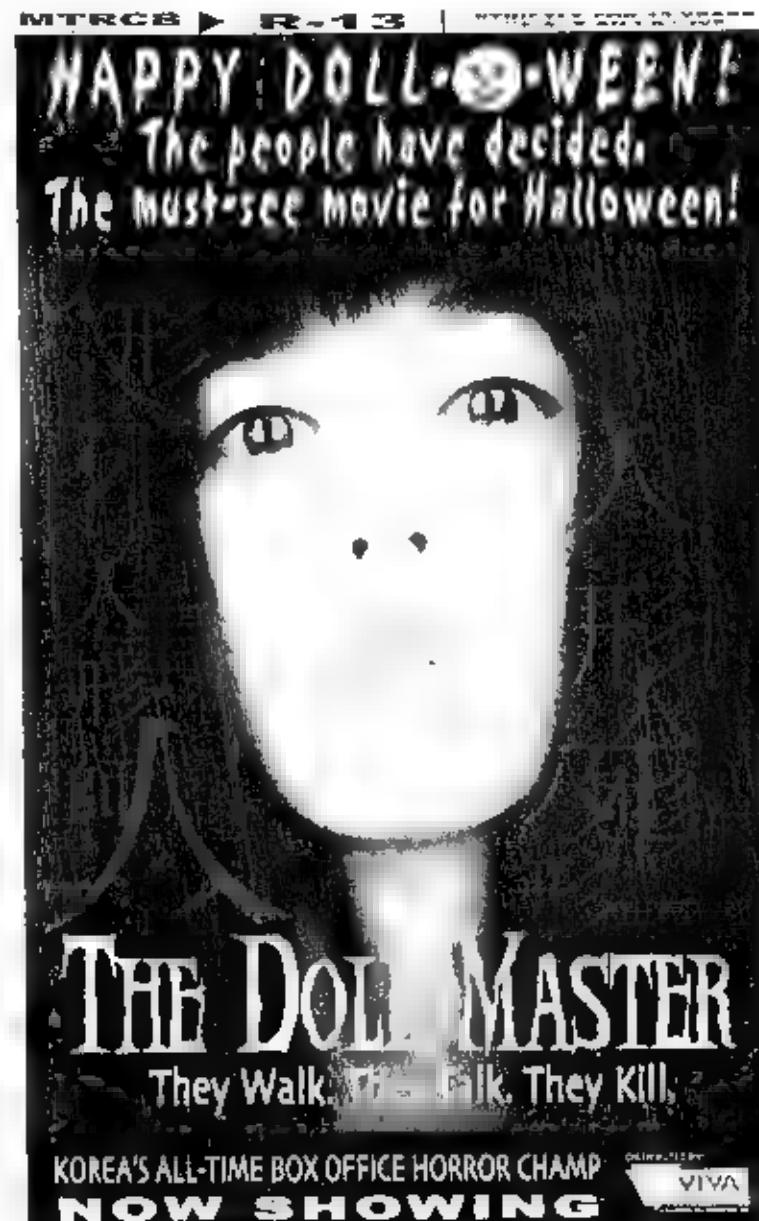
In fourth spot was "Friday Night Lights," starring Billy Bob Thornton in a story about a small-town Texas football coach, with a total box office haul of \$6.9 million.

The politically charged "Team America: World Police," a team of US puppets fighting a unilateral war on terror, took fifth place with a haul of \$6.4 million in its second week on screens.

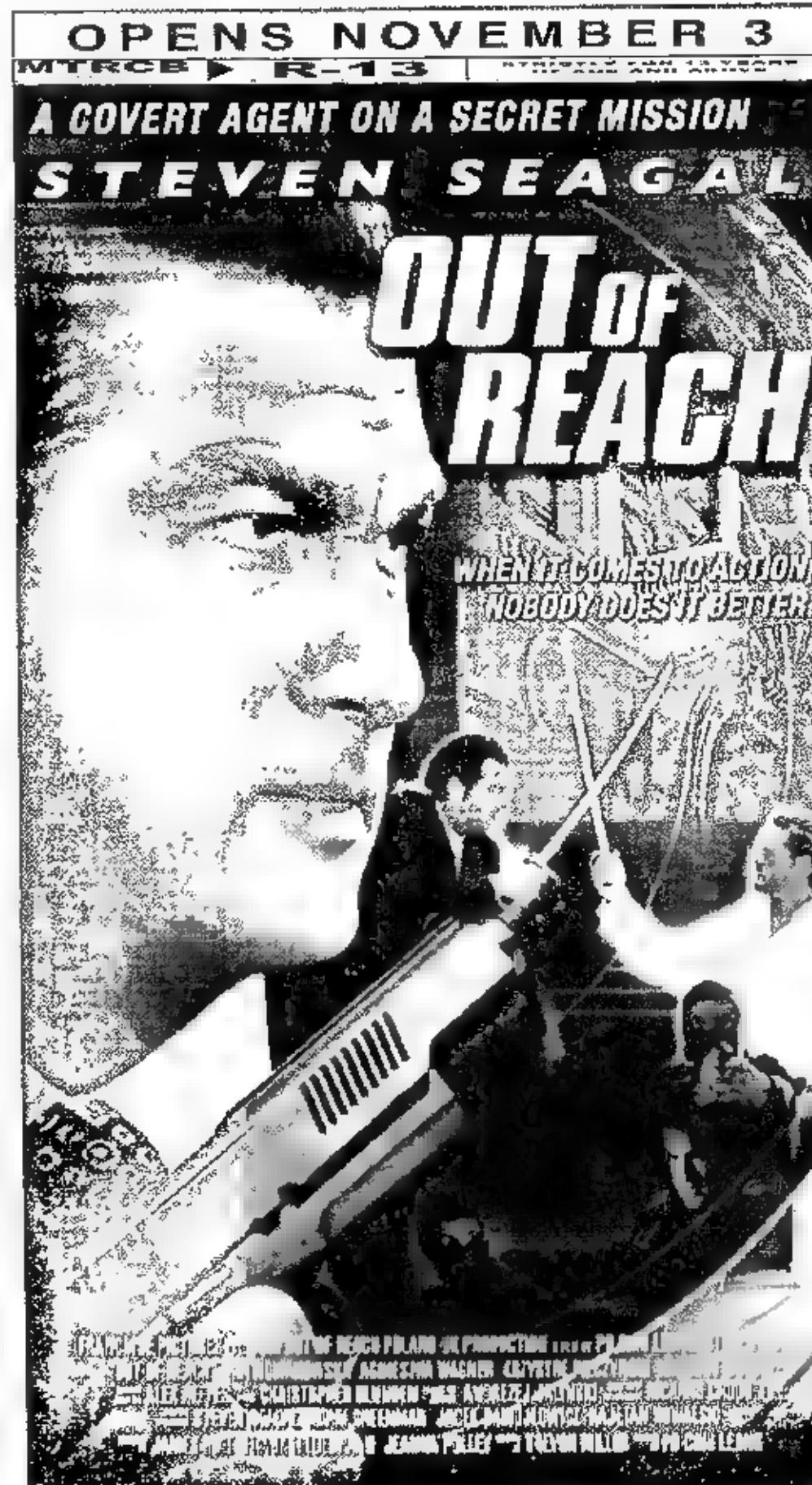
The feature movie from the makers of the hit animated television show "South Park," stars a cast of clunky marionette superheroes battling terrorists led by North Korean leader Kim Jong-il.

The movie, which opened less than three weeks ahead of the US presidential election, had generated enormous controversy for its irreverent portrayal

THE GRUDGE/A26



KOREA'S ALL-TIME BOX OFFICE HORROR CHAMP  
NOW SHOWING



## Keith Martin in Iloilo

BARRACKS Bar & Restaurant,

Iloilo City's biggest and most popular music lounge featuring top entertainers, celebrates its anniversary with a grand show

starring Keith Martin on Friday, Oct. 29.

The show will also feature a full band and performers in the show that starts at 7 p.m.

Keith will also perform at Quorum Disco and KTV in Bacolod City on Saturday, Oct. 30. The shows are sponsored by Dickies Jeans, USA in cooperation with Poly/EMI Records.

Since Keith topped the charts with his single, "Because of You," he has been a most in-demand artist in Philippine entertainment scene.

He performed in several sell-out live concerts and has done shows with other Filipino entertainers.



KEITH Martin

## OPENS NOVEMBER 3

IT'S NOT A NIGHTMARE IF IT'S REALLY HAPPENING.

PG-13



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After "THE RING" comes the American remake of another super-scary Japanese movie produced by Sam Raimi (SPIDERMAN)

It never forgives.

It never forgets.

SARAH MICHELLE GELLAR

WILL PULLMAN

**THE GRUDGE**



## ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2004

## Even a rug would look good on Kristine

MON CHER J.M. and I were seated on the same row as Diether Ocampo and Kristine Hermosa at the Aliw Theater during the Star Awards for Television so I saw how surprised Tin-tin was when she was named "Star of the Night."

She was ravishing as ever, but it seemed she didn't exactly like what she

was wearing. Before she went on stage, she held the upper part of her electric blue gown and told Diet, "Ito?" Disbelief was written all over her face. Perhaps she didn't really prepare to go to the awards and just wore an old gown.

Diet wanted to take her picture on stage but she left the stage quickly, as if

## DOLLYWOOD

Dolly Ann Carvajal



she didn't like to display her gown. But with her angelic face, even a rug would look good on her.

What makes Tin-tin really beautiful is that she seems not even aware of her charms. She's not like typical movie stars who desperately seek attention and walk around with a self-balloon that reads, "Look at me! Look at me!"

## Phoemela's smirk

IT WAS very noble of Phoemela Baranda to accept the award for "Best Reality Show" in behalf of "Extra Challenge," since the hosts—Paolo Bediones and Ethel Booba—were a no-show.

Not too long ago, Phoemela was booted out of the show because she was allegedly caught taking marijuana during a shoot.

The audience wondered if Phoemela was sincere when she said in her speech, "To Paolo and Ethel, you guys deserve this!"

Doesn't she feel she deserves a second chance to be part of the show again? The smirk on her face said everything she could not say.

## Mom's legacy

ALTHOUGH I didn't get lucky in the Star Awards, just being nominated for the "Best Female Celebrity-Oriented Talk Show Host" for my show with TJ Manotoc, "Celebrity Dat Com" (Fridays, 7 p.m., IBC 13) was more than enough to make me overjoyed. Allow me to thank the Philippine Movie Press Club for the vote of confidence.

The last time I attended the Star Awards show was with my mom when she was given a Lifetime Achievement Award. I could not help getting nostalgic when I saw familiar faces from the press and show biz for whom my mom paved

the way at one point or another.

My co-nominees—Kris Aquino, Janice de Belen, Cristy Fermin and Loiit Solis—all started their TV hosting stints with my mom so it really didn't make a difference who among us won because we all came from the same source. But of course, as my mom always said, "I just opened the first door. The rest was because of their talents."

It always gives me great pride to see that the talk show genre on Philippine television, which my mom perfected, continues to flourish. Above and beyond the scoops and intrigues, may the integrity and credibility of my mom rub off on all talk show hosts comme moi.

## Questionable timing

INSIDERS insist that Jomari Yllana and Ara Mina have indeed split up due to third parties. But some quarters question the timing of it all. Why did the controversy erupt now that their movie, "Munisan Pa," is about to be shown? Mere coincidence or pure gimmickry? Remains to be seen.

Will they reconcile after their film makes it at the box office? Munisan pa... That's show biz Pinoy-style for you.

Due to insistent public demand, the most controversial play of the year, "All About Men... Penis Talks," will have a repeat at 8 p.m. tonight at the Music Museum.

## Kolorete

I STUMBLED upon this very chic yet affordable shop, Kolorete, at 3 Timog Avenue corner Scout Torillo. It has everything your kikay heart desires. I could not resist starting my Christmas shopping as soon as I sampled their merchandise.

Call or text them at 926-8363 or (0917)796-8363.

## Personal

MY HEARTFELT thanks to my "friend of perpetual help and sister in Christ," Boy Abunda, for the special mention in his acceptance speech when he won as Best Male Celebrity-Oriented Talk Show Host in the Star Awards. In my heart, I build a monument for you everyday. You're a winner, too, in the friendship department. Love ya!

For feedback, e-mail [wateringhole-shangrila@yahoo.com](mailto:wateringhole-shangrila@yahoo.com) or [dottyanne@truefaithband.com](mailto:dottyanne@truefaithband.com)

**'The Grudge'** terrorizes box...

From page A25

of the US war on terror. In sixth place in the weekly ranking was John Travolta's movie, "Ladder 49," a story of heroic firefighters, which took \$5.3 million.

Ben Affleck's new comedy "Surviving Christmas" was seventh with a \$4.4 million take on its opening weekend.

"Taxi," an action comedy starring Queen Latifah as a sassy cab driver and Jimmy Fallon as an undercover cop, ranked eighth with \$4.1 million, followed by "The Forgotten" with \$3.3 million.

Rounding off the weekly top 10 was the comedy "I Heart Huckabees," written and directed by David O. Russell and starring Dustin Hoffman, Lily Tomlin, Jude Law and Naomi Watts. It had gross ticket receipts of \$2.9 million. **APP**

MOVIE GUIDE  
NOW SHOWING

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(Sta. Rosa, Laguna) tel (049) 837-0926

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2004

A27

## ENTERTAINMENT

## Bogus superhero of the briny deep

AT FIRST sight, DreamWorks' new animated feature, "Shark Tale," looks too busily hip and slick for comfort. We could take the underwater hijinks of "Finding Nemo," but the visuals in "Shark Tale" are too clever and congested for comfort.

In time, however, we find enough viewable aspects to the film to make it worth our while. We like the movie's characterization of its fishy protagonist, Oscar, as a small-time shyster who dreams of ending up on Easy Street—until he discovers that life there isn't easy at all!

Even more affecting is the character twist made on Oscar's young friend, a shark who's the son and heir of a vicious syndicate boss. Completely against type, the young shark is depicted as a peacenik and a softie—and a vegetarian, to boot!

Also endearing is Angie, the nice, pretty angelfish who works at a "whale wash." She secretly loves Oscar to bits, but is constantly rejected and dumped as our flawed hero falls for the charms of a cheap seductress.

These disparate characters are

brought together by the accidental death of the young shark's older brother, which is mistakenly attributed to Oscar. Since all sea creatures live in mortal dread of the ruling shark "class," Oscar is instantly hailed as an avenging hero!

His lifestyle does improve tremendously, but he soon learns that there's little genuine satisfaction in living the bogus life of a superhero with fins of Kryptonite.

## 'National Treasure'

**I**N HIS latest starer, "National Treasure," Nicolas Cage plays a man who has dedicated his life to guarding a treasure that most people think doesn't exist. The responsibility handed down over four generations is to protect the secret knights of the Templar's power.

This is legendary hoard that even the father of Cage's character doesn't believe has survived to the modern age. The controversial treasure is unusually prized, because it brings not only wealth, but also power and control.

The treasure has been held by

ushers in the revival of Visayan films.

In the movie written by Armando Lab, Jonari Villana plays a tour guide and Ara Mina is cast as a schoolteacher. Jeffrey says he's particularly impressed with Jonari's performance here:

"The degree of difficulty of his role is very high. He had to learn how to speak Cebuano, and also has lines in Japanese, English, Korean and Spanish—while emoting at the same time!"

## Feedback

FROM PAUL R. Mortel of Marilina City: "Television's primary objectives are to inform, educate and entertain. On the first two, the medium is found wanting—it dishes out about 90 percent entertainment."

"To fulfill the first two objectives, TV channels should come up with 60-second infomercials on first aid for the benefit of our people, the majority of whom don't know what to do when confronted with emergencies."

"What we do or don't do during the interval before professional medical help comes could

mean the difference between life and death."

"Because people tend to forget, the infomercials should be shown repeatedly, until the procedures are assimilated by the viewing public. The first-aid tips can be sponsored by pharmaceutical firms and companies that go in for public service spots."

Jolina's boyfriend  
a lawyer who knows  
'how to make . . .

From page A28

nel 7's romantic series, "Love to Love," last Tuesday.

Jolina, who turns 26 on Nov. 6, related that she met her boyfriend through mutual friends a few years ago. She said she wasn't interested when he first courted her.

"We became friends instead," said Jolina. "When he disappeared from my life, I looked for him, and then we became steady. I've been looking for someone like him who is not intimidated by my show biz status. I used to offer a candle in Bacaraan Church for my love life and I believe that he is the answer to my prayers."

Jolina said her boyfriend is as tall as Richard Gomez and has a great but subtle sense of humor.

"He knows how to make me feel good," she said. "He only sends me an e-mail once in a while but when he does, it's so... wow!"

"When he was still here, he used to send me food that I craved for, like tapsilog. I also appreciate his positive outlook in life. He encourages me to go into other business."

"My parents approve of him," Jolina added. "He's very kind to them and to my siblings. I'm also close to his family."

The only fly in the ointment is that they are physically apart from each other.

"We really make an effort to make the relationship work," said the young star. "Living in different time zones is tough. We get to talk on the phone usually when I come home late from a taping."

She pointed out, though, that it was too early to tell if they would eventually marry each other, but she stressed that she's so happy with him. "That's why I no longer have a wish for my birthday, except maybe to be ready for the blessings that are still to come my way," he said. "I'm just so thankful and happy."

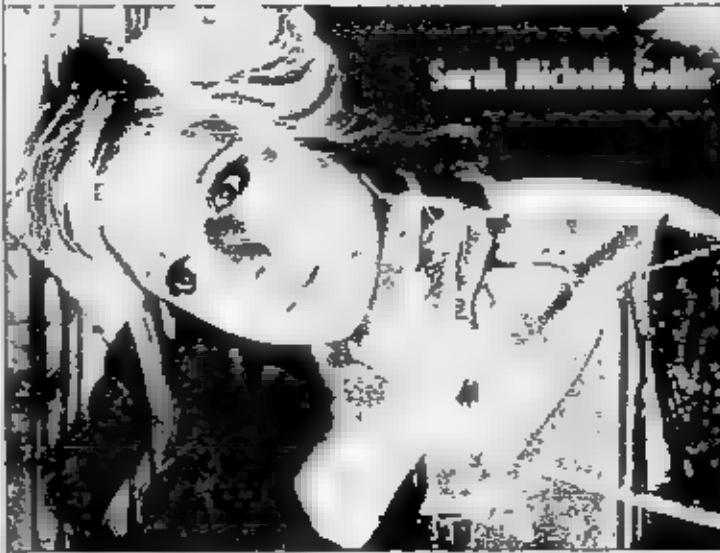
She said her boyfriend went to New York a couple of years ago to complete his master's studies in public administration at the Columbia University in New York and then he found a job in a law firm there. Prior

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From Period: Sept. 27-Dec. 14, 2004	
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Per DT Permit No. 2-47 series of 2004	
Drop in drop boxes located at Ayala and Robinson's chain of stores, and all LBC and Nesto branches. You may also mail entries to: Guyito's Wild Hunt, PDI Building, corner Yague and Macario Santos, Chino Roces Ave., Makati City.	

## 'THE GRUDGE'

# \$40M FIRST 3 DAYS

## The biggest opener in motion pic history for a horror movie



"The Grudge," an American remake of a hit Japanese horror movie starring Sarah Michelle Gellar, delivered an additional shock by grossing a spectacular \$40 million in its first three days at the North American box office, doubling the expectations of its distributor.

The Columbia Pictures project, took over the No. 1 slot from the cartoon "Shark Tale".

At \$40m, the film will go down in history as the biggest three day opener for a horror movie. The film is also the seventh #1 opening for Sony Pictures.

"If we would have done twenty (million dollars), we would have been ecstatic," said Rory Bruer, president of domestic distribution at the Sony Corp-owned studio.

The movie's title refers to a violent curse issued by a person who died an unnatural death. The curse lives by moving on to a new victim each time somebody dies [http://movies.yahoo.com].

ADWT

## DIAL THE RIGHT NUMBER TODAY

RATED PG-13

PARENTS ARE CAUTIONED IN BRINGING ALONG KIDS OF 7 yrs. &amp; BELOW BECAUSE OF SOME SCENES THAT MIGHT ATTESTE THEIR SENSIBILITIES.

## THESE PEOPLE NEED YOUR HELP!



WHAT YOU ARE HOLDING  
COULD SAVE THEM

CELLULAR

THE MOST POWERFUL

KIM BASINGER CHRIS EVANS JASON STATHAM

THE WORLD IS IN YOUR HANDS

## NOW SHOWING

What If You Had A  
Second Chance With The  
One That Got Away?

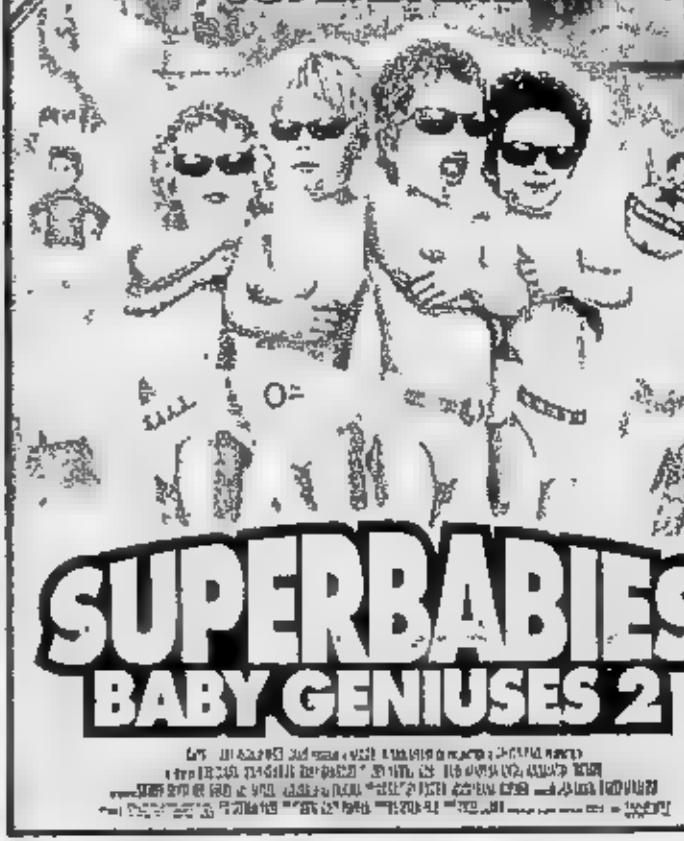


Ethan Hawke Julie Delpy

## Before Sunset

## NOW SHOWING

BATMAN  
SUPERMAN  
AND SPIDERMAN  
THEY WERE THE  
SUPERBABIES



SUPERBABIES  
BABY GENIUSES 2

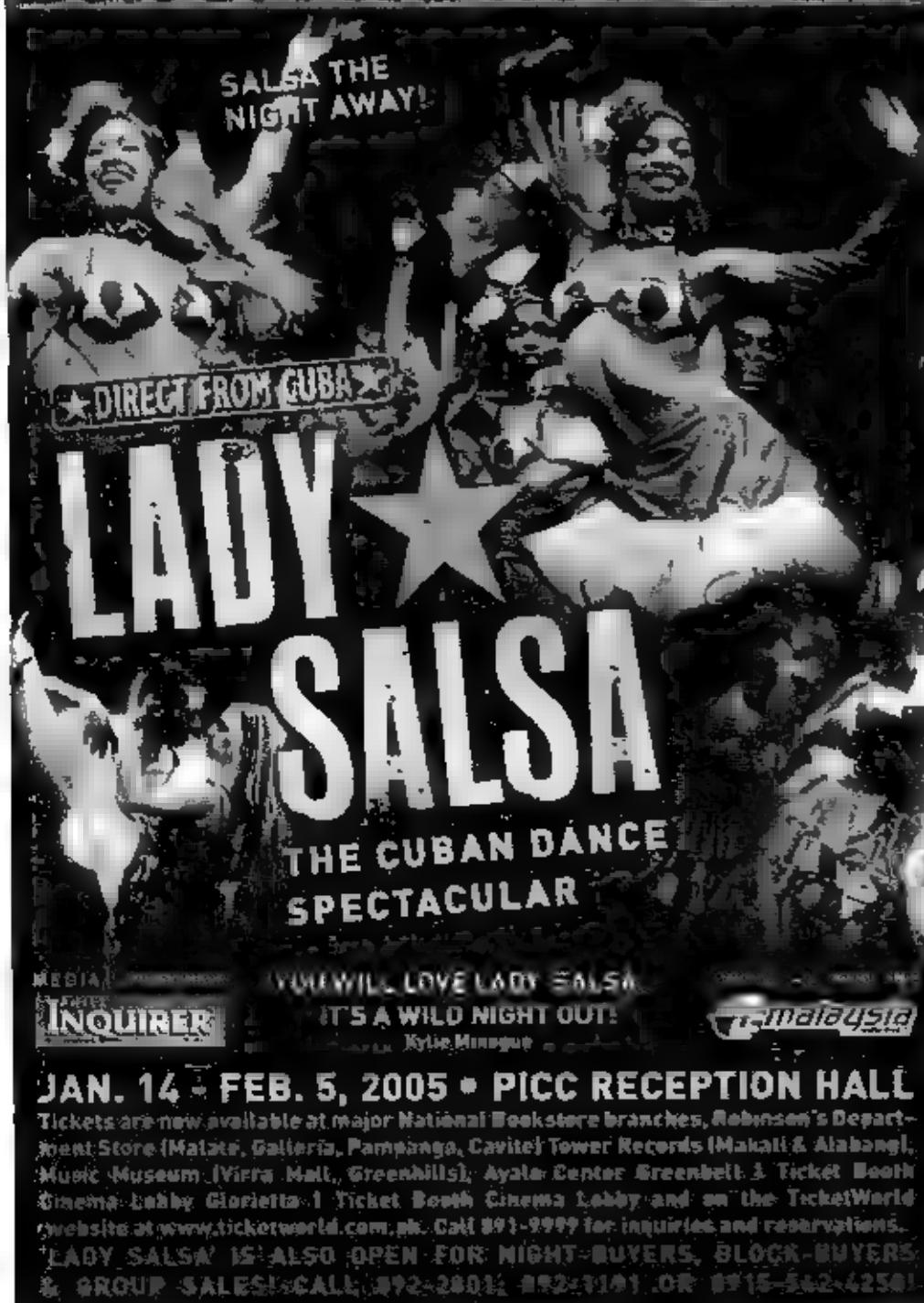
ADWT

# ENTERTAINMENT

Text us your feedback: Inquirer ent name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor Louie C. Camino  
Assistant Editor Emma G. Velarde

BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN!



Jolina's boyfriend  
a lawyer who knows  
'how to make me  
feel good'



*"WOMAN IN LOVE,"* Jolina says of her man's occasional e-mail.

By Jocelyn Valle

**J**OLINA Magdangal admitted she has found love in a United States based 30-year-old lawyer who knows "how to make me feel good," but she refused to reveal his identity and how long they have been an item.

"I will introduce him to you when he comes home maybe next year," Jolina, speaking in Filipino, told INQUIRER Entertainment and two other writers during the press lunch for Chan-

JOLINA/A27

## JUST SHOP gift guide SUPER! surprises



Let the Christmas Shopping Marathon begin!

Gifts, gifts, gifts galore!

Jenni Epperson back to back with Tim Yap

This October 29, Friday in

JUST SHOP AND JUST SHOP FOR HIM,

everything is SUPER!

Felicite Prieto unwraps her Christmas wishes and Jericho Rosales tips through his shopping list.

The ultimate GIFT GUIDE: gifts for mom, dad, bro, sis and boss!

LUXE OR BARGAIN? Take it from celebrity shoppers: JM Rodriguez and Angelique Villaraza

Anina Aranaz fabulously wraps it up in BLING IT ON!

We've got your Christmas list sorted out!

All you've got to do... JUST SHOP!



THURSDAY,  
OCTOBER 20, 2004

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

B1

# BUSINESS

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E-mail or business@inquirer.com.ph  
Website: www.Inq7Money.net

Editor Raul O. Marcelo  
Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

**P38.25**  
per Kg.

big Supercenter  
Ermite/Galleria

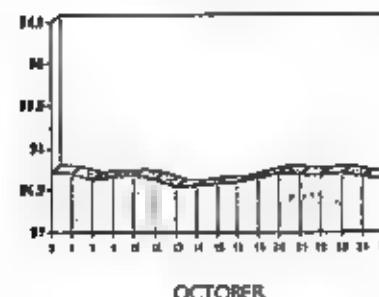
big Supercenter  
Pasig/Fairview

VITACORE

## Call center sector sees P38B in revenues

### INDICATORS CURRENCIES

#### PESO-DOLLAR RATE



P 56.39 = \$ 1

As of 5 p.m., Oct. 27, 2004

Y 106.81 = \$ 1

As of 5 p.m., Oct. 26, 2004

GOLD: \$426.60-427.10

per ounce Hong Kong, Oct. 26, 2004

OCTOBER

	Dollar	Peso	Dollar	Peso
United States	0.783331	1.000000	56.3260	
Japan	0.007346	0.009378	0.5282	
United Kingdom	1.437177	1.834700	103.3413	
Hong Kong	0.100678	0.128526	7.2394	
Switzerland	0.852178	0.832670	46.6953	
Canada	0.639454	0.816327	45.9804	
Singapore	0.471347	0.601721	33.8925	
Australia	0.582879	0.744103	41.9123	
Bahrain	2.077855	2.852590	149.4098	
Saudi Arabia	0.208899	0.286681	15.0211	
Brunei	0.469533	0.599916	33.7908	
Indonesia	0.006098	0.008110	0.0062	
Thailand	0.819105	0.024334	1.3735	
UAE	0.213279	0.272272	15.3360	
Euro	1.000000	1.276500	71.9058	
Argentina	0.263747	0.336770	18.9650	
Brazil	0.272652	0.348068	19.6053	
Denmark	0.134544	0.171886	9.6817	
India	0.017156	0.021981	1.2336	
Malaysia	0.205167	0.263193	14.8246	
Mexico	0.058130	0.086975	4.8990	
New Zealand	0.545267	0.656000	36.2079	
Norway	0.122216	0.156021	8.7880	
Pakistan	0.012697	0.016288	0.9231	
South Africa	0.125213	0.159847	9.0035	
Korea	0.000692	0.000884	0.0458	
Sweden	0.110864	0.141657	7.9790	
Syria	0.015099	0.019275	1.0857	
Taiwan	0.023268	0.029691	1.6724	
Venezuela	0.000409	0.000522	0.0294	

### STOCK MARKET

Shares close 0.31% higher



SHARE prices closed 0.31 percent higher yesterday, supported by a positive third-quarter performance from key blue chip companies, dealers said.

The market continues its technical rebound following recent sharp falls to below the main index's psychological support of 1,750 but investors were quick to cash in gains made early in the session, given concerns about higher crude oil costs.

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index gained 5.56 points to 1,774.34 after trading between 1,767.98 and 1,786.61.

Volume was 2.07 billion shares worth P1.526 billion after 1.53 billion shares worth P1.84 billion on Tuesday.

The broader all-shares index rose 12.82 points to 1,110.20.

Losers outnumbered gainers 42 to 32, with 58 stocks unchanged.

"The earnings reports we have so far seen are encouraging. They indicate the continued resilience of Philippine companies despite the expected contractionary effect of higher oil prices on profits and the economy in general," said Mark Alan Canizares of Citiseconline.com.

He said the market is on a technical rebound following recent declines and will likely build a base in the 1,750-1,800 range in coming sessions.

BP Securities Inc. said in an advisory that the next two weeks will be crucial as investors try to assess the possible impact of high oil prices on the profitability of companies in the coming quarters.

"Their earnings performance will set the tone for the market in the coming weeks. If third quarter income results are positive, this may fuel interest in the market," BP Securities said.

Philippine Savings Bank was the most actively traded stock, up P5 at P33. The bulk of shares sold were traded in a cross transaction.

Philippine Long Distance Telephone gained P15 to P1.375.

Banco de Oro rose 75 centavos to P19 after reporting a 41-percent rise in its net profit in the nine months to September.

Ayala Land Inc. however closed flat at P7 after last-minute profit-taking erased earlier gains on its results.

San Miguel Corp. saw its "B" shares, available to foreign investors, rise P1 to P71.50 while its "A" shares gained 50 centavos to P56.50. **APP**

### Debt service to eat up 36% of '05 budget

THE NATIONAL government's interest payments will eat up an historic high of 36 percent of its total budget next year due to its assumption of National Power Corp.'s debts, thus making new tax measures imperative.

This was the warning aired by Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas executive director for investor relations Cora Guidote yesterday, estimating that the government would have to spend P323.6 billion for interest payments in 2005, inclusive of some P36 billion for Napocor.

This will jack up interest payments as a ratio of the 2005 re-enacted budget to 36 percent from only 28.1 percent in 2003 and about 33.3 percent by end-2004.

The expenditure would further swell, Guidote said, if the peso were to depreciate as many market players were expecting by 2005.

If the local currency were to depreciate by 3 percent, she said interest payments would amount to P323.7 billion or 36.4 percent of the budget.

Assuming a further depreciation of 5 percent and 10 percent, she said the government's interest payments next year would likely hit P331.9 billion and P340 billion, respectively, equivalent to 36.6 percent and 37.1 percent of the budget.

Under such a scenario, she said the major consequence would be a further reduction in the government's capital outlays since this

DEBT/B2

### INTEREST RATES

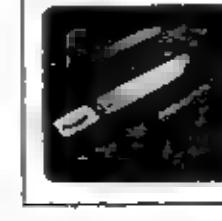
October 27, 2004

MART 1 Rates

Benchmark	MART 1	MART 1
Interest	27-Oct-04	26-Oct-04
Rates	(%)	(%)
1 Month	0.1233	0.1125
3 Months	8.2714	8.2904
6 Months	9.2133	9.205
1 Year	9.9982	10.0481
2 Years	10.84	10.865
3 Years	11.4767	11.4946
4 Years	12.0017	11.9857
5 Years	12.5288	12.4633
7 Years	13.1384	13.1217
10 Years	13.5571	13.5
20 Years	13.85	13.8483
25 Years	14.1417	14.1286

SOURCE: MARTBLOOMBERG

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\*New monthly payments for Martinez & Associates, Inc. 100-1000, 101-1010, 102-1020, 103-1030, 104-1040, 105-1050, 106-1060, 107-1070, 108-1080, 109-1090, 110-1100, 111-1110, 112-1120, 113-1130, 114-1140, 115-1150, 116-1160, 117-1170, 118-1180, 119-1190, 120-1200, 121-1210, 122-1220, 123-1230, 124-1240, 125-1250, 126-1260, 127-1270, 128-1280, 129-1290, 130-1300, 131-1310, 132-1320, 133-1330, 134-1340, 135-1350, 136-1360, 137-1370, 138-1380, 139-1390, 140-1400, 141-1410, 142-1420, 143-1430, 144-1440, 145-1450, 146-1460, 147-1470, 148-1480, 149-1490, 150-1500, 151-1510, 152-1520, 153-1530, 154-1540, 155-1550, 156-1560, 157-1570, 158-1580, 159-1590, 160-1600, 161-1610, 162-1620, 163-1630, 164-1640, 165-1650, 166-1660, 167-1670, 168-1680, 169-1690, 170-1700, 171-1710, 172-1720, 173-1730, 174-1740, 175-1750, 176-1760, 177-1770, 178-1780, 179-1790, 180-1800, 181-1810, 182-1820, 183-1830, 184-1840, 185-1850, 186-1860, 187-1870, 188-1880, 189-1890, 190-1900, 191-1910, 192-1920, 193-1930, 194-1940, 195-1950, 196-1960, 197-1970, 198-1980, 199-1990, 200-2000, 201-2010, 202-2020, 203-2030, 204-2040, 205-2050, 206-2060, 207-2070, 208-2080, 209-2090, 210-2100, 211-2110, 212-2120, 213-2130, 214-2140, 215-2150, 216-2160, 217-2170, 218-2180, 219-2190, 220-2200, 221-2210, 222-2220, 223-2230, 224-2240, 225-2250, 226-2260, 227-2270, 228-2280, 229-2290, 230-2300, 231-2310, 232-2320, 233-2330, 234-2340, 235-2350, 236-2360, 237-2370, 238-2380, 239-2390, 240-2400, 241-2410, 242-2420, 243-2430, 244-2440, 245-2450, 246-2460, 247-2470, 248-2480, 249-2490, 250-2500, 251-2510, 252-2520, 253-2530, 254-2540, 255-2550, 256-2560, 257-2570, 258-2580, 259-2590, 260-2600, 261-2610, 262-2620, 263-2630, 264-2640, 265-2650, 266-2660, 267-2670, 268-2680, 269-2690, 270-2700, 271-2710, 272-2720, 273-2730, 274-2740, 275-2750, 276-2760, 277-2770, 278-2780, 279-2790, 280-2800, 281-2810, 282-2820, 283-2830, 284-2840, 285-2850, 286-2860, 287-2870, 288-2880, 289-2890, 290-2900, 291-2910, 292-2920, 293-2930, 294-2940, 295-2950, 296-2960, 297-2970, 298-2980, 299-2990, 300-3000, 301-3010, 302-3020, 303-3030, 304-3040, 305-3050, 306-3060, 307-3070,





# Gov't to exclude GFI deposits in computation of public debt

By Michelle V. Remo

**THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE** is considering excluding the amount of deposits in government financial institutions from the computation of the country's public sector debt, which has been reportedly bloated because of calculation errors.

The DOF is recomputing the country's public sector debt after the International Monetary Fund proposed some adjustments in the government's accounting system. In the recent visit of IMF representatives to the Philippines, the multilateral agency suggested that the government exclude some items in the computation of its debt, and observe accounting systems practiced in other countries.

A finance official said the IMF proposed the exclusion of deposits in GFI's from the computation of debt because the nature of bank deposits was different from borrowings. "We are studying that possibility because anyway, why do we have to consider the money deposited by people in government banks as government debt," the finance official said.

Aside from considering the exclusion from debt computation the deposits in GFI's such as Land Bank of the Philippines and Development Bank of the Philippines, the DOF is also removing intra-government borrowings from the national government were considered part of the debt.

This means that the new debt figure that will result from the recomputation will no longer include items like bor-

rowings of the national government from government-owned and -controlled corporations, or vice versa.

Under the old accounting method, borrowings of the national government from GOCCs, such as through bond issues, were counted as part of the consolidated public sector debt. Also, borrowings by government agencies or state-owned firms from the national government were considered part of the debt.

With the exclusion of intra-government borrowings from the debt computation, the public sector debt is estimated to be reduced by about a trillion pesos. The government earlier reported that the consolidated public sector debt as of end-2003, under the old accounting system, stood at P5.9 trillion.



## CAPITAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael B. Buenventura, at the Asian Capital Markets Forum of The Asset Magazine, says the country continues to make progress in its efforts to develop the capital market, but urges for an accelerated implementation of financial sector reforms to achieve faster economic growth. He said domestic saving rate in the Philippines in 2003 was only 20 percent of GDP, lower than Singapore's 46.7 percent, Malaysia's 42.9 percent, Thailand's 33.1 percent, Hong Kong's 31.6 percent and Indonesia's 21.5 percent. Also present at the forum were Securities and Exchange Commission Chair Fe B. Barin and representatives from the financial and corporate sectors.



## British bank launches credit card

By Doris C. Dumao

UK-BASED Standard Chartered Bank sees its credit card base expanding by 30-40 percent within the next three months with the launch of its D3 visa credit card, the first "three-dimensional" plastic in the Philippines.

In a press briefing yesterday, SCB general manager for credit cards and personal loans Sanjay Aggarwal said the D3 card would help the British bank outpace the 10-percent projected annual growth of credit card outstanding balances in the country over the next two to three years.

He said three-dimensional credit cards had been successfully introduced in South Korea by other banks but it was the first time SCB was adopting the concept, choosing the Philippines as the very first market.

Leveraging on its strength as a global bank, SCB expects its credit card volume to grow by 15-20 percent, targeting consumers with annual earnings of at least P120,000.

Although SCB entered the local credit card business quite late, starting only in 1997 while others took off a decade ago, Aggarwal noted the bank now ranked among the top five credit card issuers in the country in terms of outstanding balances.

Aggarwal said its target market in the Philippines—those aged 21 and above and belonging to the A, B and C income brackets—was rapidly growing and benefiting the credit card business.

To date, credit card penetration in the Philippines is estimated at only 30-40 percent of the population.

The D3 features a three-dimensional design and likewise offers unique benefits to cardholders until Jan. 31, 2005, such as:

- a 1-percent cash rebate for all retail purchases;
- option to convert any retail purchase into easy installment terms with zero interest for three months;
- a free three-month trial period; and
- no annual fee or processing fee, only a P100 membership fee starting the fourth month.

The D3 card also allows cardholders to determine their due dates—whether on the 15th, 18th or the 29th.

## 14 RP firms joining China exposition

By Ronnel W. Domingo

FOURTEEN local firms are taking a crack at the 1.3-billion Chinese market through the China-Association of Southeast Asian Nations Expo to be held Nov. 3-6 in Nanning City, capital of the southern province of Guangxi.

Trade Undersecretary Thomas G. Aquino is leading a concurrent business mission that would attend the China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit.

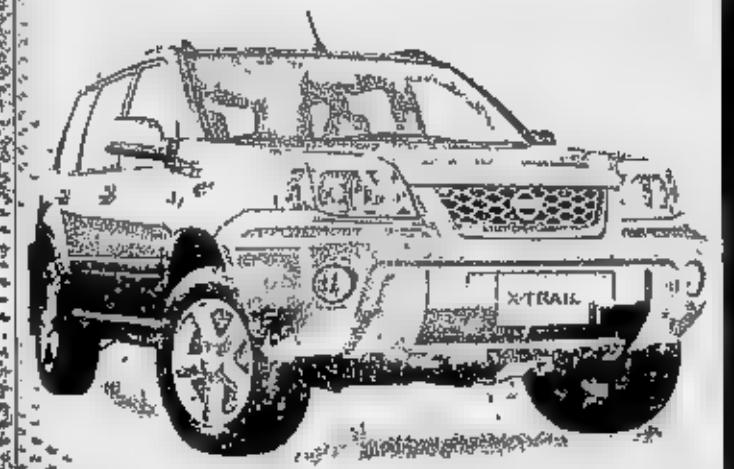
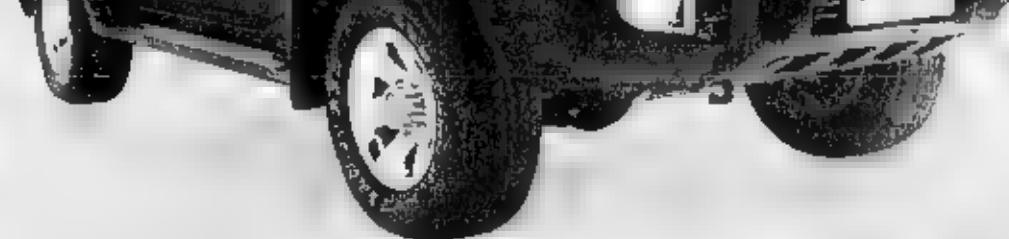
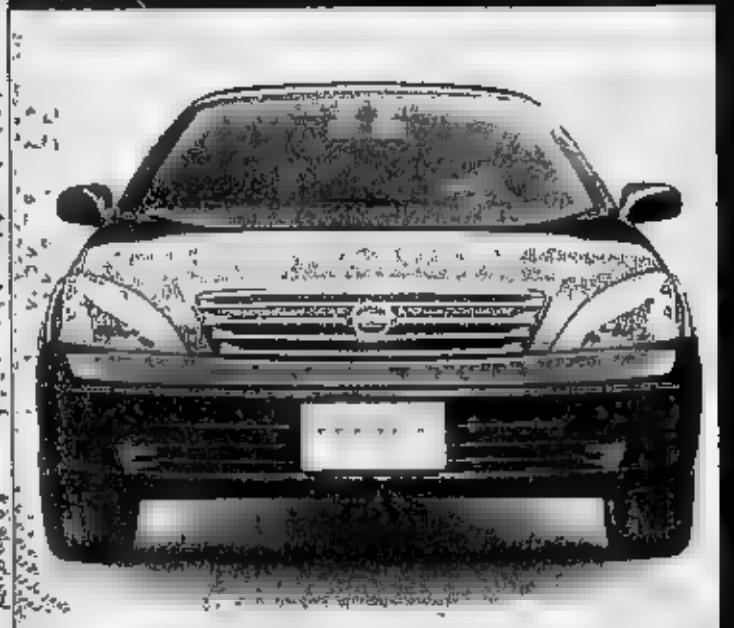
Some 70 delegates of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry and businessmen from Region 11 in Southern Mindanao are joining the event.

The Philippine exhibit will feature an integrated country presentation of trade, industry and tourism with an interactive display of priority products and services.

The 14 companies include Oceanus Exports (Manila) Inc., AAMC Foods Corp., El Coco Manufacturing Inc., Mabuhay 2000, Superstar Coconut, Camel Appliances Manufacturing Corp., Euromed Laboratories Inc., Philippine Coco Forest, Viviendo Philippines Inc., Club Panoly Resort, Morning Star Travel and Tours Inc., DOT Travel Service Philippines Inc., Jeron Travel and Tours and Philippine Airlines.

The Department of Trade and Industry said the CAExpo was meant to promote the establishment of the China-ASEAN Free Trade Area "with the principle of mutual benefits and economic cooperation both within the Cafta and with the rest of the world."

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# State assets eyed as collateral for loans

By Michelle V. Remo

**THE GOVERNMENT** intends to use state assets as collateral to raise P10 billion in funds that will be used to help finance the proposed Philippine Infrastructure Corp. (PIC).

The Department of Finance said the government owned a lot of assets, including real estate and shares of stocks, which could be used as collateral to back P10 billion in loans from commercial sources.

The PIC, which will be tasked to develop the country's infrastructure support, needs a total of P20 billion to start its operations.

The PIC, an attached agency of the National Development Co., will act as a proponent of infrastructure projects. Once completed, the projects will be sold to private investors.

"The PIC will serve as the proponent of these projects so that getting them (the projects) off the ground will be quicker," said Finance Undersecretary Eric Recto.

The idea is for private-sector investors to eventually take charge of the infrastructure

projects, he said.

Recto explained that the government would raise P10 billion through asset-based financing to prevent putting at risk the government's financial health. Under the scheme, government funds will not be tapped in case of loan default because credit providers will simply have to take over the assets used as collateral.

Economist Solita Monsod, a professor at the University of the Philippines and former chief of the National Economic and Development Authority, earlier warned that the PIC could only worsen the country's fiscal problem because of the huge financing needed for its operations.

She also said that some of the agenda of the government's Medium-Term Philippine Economic Development Plan, which included the establishment of the PIC, were not helpful in averting a full-blown fiscal crisis.

The government's economic team, for its part, said the establishment of the PIC was a solution to the problem on the country's poor infrastructure, which was cited as a major drag to efforts to attract investments into the country.

## Rotary, Le Club FCC to meet

THE ROTARY Club of Manila and Le Club-French Chamber of Commerce in the Philippines will hold their second joint general membership and networking luncheon today at Dusit Hotel Nikko, Makati City.

The event, to be graced by French Ambassador Renée Veyret, will be a festive event of food, wine and music.

Alejandro L. Yap Jr., RCM president, said the meeting aimed to explore more avenues of cooperation between the two groups.

Le Club FCC is headed by Asiotype chair Philippe Gauthier.

	\$1,000 to 19,999	\$20,000 to 49,999	\$50,000 to 99,999	\$100,000 to 499,999	\$500,000 & up
1 month	2.500%	2.625%	2.750%	2.875%	3.000%
2 months	2.625%	2.750%	2.875%	3.000%	3.125%
3 months	2.750%	2.875%	3.000%	3.125%	3.250%
6 months	2.875%	3.000%	3.125%	3.250%	3.375%
12 months	3.000%	3.125%	3.250%	3.375%	3.500%

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**PAWAGAN**

**PAWAGAN**

**PAMILYA + PATAY = PERA**  
Malasakit at tiyaga sa funeral business

**10:30pm**

**HOPE**

**Globe**

**Cheri Mercado**

**lang sa B3**



THE MANOBOS are the prime movers in the reforestation project.

## PNOC-EDC returns the favor to Mother Nature

By Abigail L. Ho

IT'S a simple law of nature. When you take, you should also give back. When nature is your ally, giving you your bread and butter, the least you could do is give something in return.

And this exactly is what Philippine National Oil Co.-Energy Development Corp. (PNOC-EDC) has been doing since 1992 through the Macadac Reforestation Project.

While operating the Mindanao Geothermal Production Field (MGPF) at Mt. Apo, the en-

ergy development firm embarked on the reforestation project to give something back to Mother Nature, as well as to assure its host community that it meant to take care of the environment in which it was operating.

In 1983, a forest fire left large parts of the Mt. Apo area denuded and wanting of new trees. This then prompted PNOC-EDC to implement a multimillion-peso reforestation project, starting in the vicinity of Lake Macadac, one of

the three lakes near Mt. Apo.

### Expanding project

The reforestation efforts then extended to adjacent areas, including those around Lake Jordan, the Saguan Area in Makilala, North Cotabato, and Baroring in Davao del Sur.

These areas became collectively known as the Macadac Reforestation Project, which involved a total land area of 545 hectares and for which PNOC-EDC had

spent more than P46 million as of end-January.

This, PNOC-EDC said, was also the "highest" reforestation effort in the country, being done in an area that was 2,200 meters above sea level.

Apart from the Macadac area, PNOC-EDC has also started reforesting portions of the area around Lake Venado, upon the request of the provincial government there as well as of indigenous groups in Mt. Apo.

So far, 30 hectares of land have already been reforested, with another 30 hectares of land to be covered before the end of the year.

Another reforestation project, this time involving 20 hectares of land, is being implemented in Bansalan and Sta. Cruz, both in Davao del Sur.

Trees used in the reforestation efforts, PNOC-EDC was proud to say, were nothing but species indigenous to Mt. Apo and not hybrids or fast growing varieties that were usually used in reforestation projects.

### Mobilizing indigenous people

But since geothermal steam field and power plant operations, not reforestation, were the core competencies of the PNOC-EDC staff, MGPF operations superin-

tendent Elmo Valentino Butardo said the natives in these areas were tapped to ensure that the restored forests in the area would stay lush and green.

"We sought the help of the tribes, people and the farmers. We're not experts and we also don't have the manpower," he said. "They're also the ones taking care of the reforested areas."

To ensure that the reforested areas are free from kaingeros and illegal loggers, PNOC-EDC is maintaining an extension officer from its environmental management division as well as eight forest guards, most of whom are locals who used to be kaingeros themselves.

To date, most of the trees planted under PNOC-EDC's reforestation projects are now 10-15 feet tall. They have started to form a lush forest canopy that is ideal as a natural habitat for the country's national bird—the Philippine Eagle.

### More than just a tree

When, in 1998, various species of birds started building their nests in trees within the PNOC-EDC's Mt. Apo reforested areas, the site became a potential breeding ground for birds, even those as rare as the Philippine Eagle.

The Philippine Eagle Foundation, in fact, chose the Mt. Apo geothermal reservation as the experimental release site for Kabayan, the first eagle to be bred in captivity.

Kabayan has now found a home within the contiguous forest cover of the Mt. Apo reservation area, flying freely without fear of being shot down by hunters.

### Kabayan's home

The eagle is sometimes seen resting on one of the branches of trees surrounding the geothermal site. Though not close enough to touch, one can enjoy a good enough view of the majestic bird.

If often seen flying around the forest reservation, hovering above trees that are now showing signs of becoming towering giants in a few more years.

Indeed, as nature has given PNOC-EDC the gift of helping propel the country to being the second biggest geothermal energy producer in the world, the state corporation has committed to give something back to its benefactor.

And the trees at the Mt. Apo site will, for years, serve as testaments to this commitment.



THE MINDANAO geothermal power plant

## Gov't fights uphill battle to light up 'darkest region'

By Jerry E. Espanada

(Last of a series)

NOT ALL is lost in the government's effort to light up the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

"We're looking at a home-grown solution to the (ARMM's power) problem, particularly Lanao del Sur," said Edith Bueno, head of the National Electrification Administration.

"(The debt of the Lanao del Sur Electric Cooperative) to Napocor is getting bigger while its systems losses are getting higher. We'll soon come up with a policy."

Bueno said that poverty is another factor being considered by the NEA as the agency tries to look for solutions to the problems in the ARMM.

### Poverty incidence

"We are aware that a majority of ARMM residents are among the country's poorest of the poor," Bueno said.

A report from the House of Representatives affirmed the NEA's assessment.

"ARMM residents today are more impoverished than they were six years ago," the House report said. "Compared to the whole of Mindanao, ARMM still registers the highest incidence of poor families and malnutrition, maternal and child mortal-

ity rate and the lowest percentage for simple literacy of the population."

In 1997, ARMM provinces occupied the five bottom slots to rank lowest overall in the human development index of the United Nations Development Program.

"Poverty in the ARMM is a rural phenomenon, contributing 58.3 percent to total poverty in (Mindanao)," said the House report. "Poverty incidence in the ARMM increased, reaching 68.8 percent in 2000 despite a decreasing trend in Mindanao."

The region also has the "highest percentage of the population without access to safe water, toilet facilities and housing."

### Lack of economic support

The same report also revealed that only a little over 40 percent of national roads in the ARMM were paved, while telephone density stood at a very low 0.40 percent.

"There is also a severe lack of economic support facilities like farm-to-market roads, post-harvest and irrigation facilities," the report said.

"While the region is strategically located for trade and commerce like its other potentials, this remains largely untapped. The ARMM has no manufacturing sector to speak

of. It has the lowest GDP per capita and a large pool of manpower but with insufficient skills," it said.

The ARMM "has vast natural resources, but has very few industries, limited economic activities and little investments."

Its private sector share in the total number of establishments in the entire Mindanao area was limited to a very low 4.4 percent.

### Budget allocation

Ironically, ARMM is supposedly autonomous, but it is still heavily dependent on budgetary allocations from the national government.

For the period 1992-2002, ARMM received comparatively less than most other regions in terms of regional allocation. In 2002, it had the lowest allocation at P11.1 billion.

Last year, its P12.1-billion allocation was the third lowest, next only to CAR's P12 billion and Caraga's P11 billion.

However, in terms of per capita allocation, ARMM received more (P4,853) compared to Metro Manila (P3,904) in 2001 and 2002.

Between 1996 and 2000, ARMM's collections from revenue and other taxes amounted to only P387.5 million, about 2 percent of P18.65 billion, its total budget for the five-year period.

## Corn imports seen going down

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE COUNTRY'S corn and corn substitute imports are expected to decline by about 50 percent this year, as livestock raisers cut back on production resulting in lower demand for animal feeds.

Also, the country is expected to register a bumper corn harvest by the end of the year.

According to the Philippine Association of Feed Millers Inc. (Pafmi), corn and corn substitutes imports as of October reached only 576,320 metric tons, down by almost 50 percent from 1,149 million metric tons acquired in the same period last year.

According to Pafmi vice president Ric Pinca, the slide in the importation of corn and corn substitutes (mainly wheat) this year could be due to the cut in the production of backyard hog raisers.

"Because of the high cost of feed, backyard raisers stopped producing or cut down on production," he said.

He said this resulted in a 20- to 25-percent drop in the feed millers sales volume.

The Department of Agriculture said 77 per-

cent of the country's hog stock was coming from backyard raisers. It added that 20 percent of these backyard raisers decided not to stock up this year.

With corn harvest this year seen reaching 5.3 million metric tons, feed millers opted to buy most of their requirements locally.

However, Pinca noted that only 3.1 million metric tons of the total corn production were yellow corn, the variety used for feeds.

Pafmi records showed that the corn substitutes that the country was importing included Chinese, Indian, wheat, Australian, wheat and Ukraine wheat.

To avert a further slide in sales, the feed-milling sector is considering a rollback on their prices provided corn prices will not go beyond P11 per kilo, Pinca said.

In 2003, the same Pafmi records showed that the Philippines imported 392,599 MT of wheat from India, 748,498 MT from China, and 8,000 MT from Europe.



Tong-Rong Chang (5th from left), the Speaker of the Keelung City Council, accompanies Taiwanese business delegates to an investment mission in Manila. The group came to explore opportunities in the country and trading possibilities with their Filipino counterparts.

ROGER MARGALLO

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2004



# ADB grants \$150-M agri productivity loan

DAVAO CITY—THE ASIAN Development Bank has extended a \$150-million loan to finance infrastructure projects aimed at boosting agricultural productivity.

The infrastructure projects under the Infrastructure for Rural Productivity Enhancement Sector would be completed over the next five years.

These include 800 kilometers of farm-to-market roads, bridges, irrigation of some 8,000 or more hectares of agricultural lands and building of at least 300 potable water systems.

The ADB's loan would be matched by a \$37-million counterpart fund from the government.

The Department of Agriculture (DA) recently signed an agreement with local government officials to implement the program.

Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap estimated

that once the projects are completed, the town-beneficiaries would increase income by as much as 45 percent, reduce poverty incidence by 20 percent and bring down the transport cost of farm and fishery products.

"We are building rural prosperity," Yap said of the program.

He said the government was optimistic the program would increase the productivity of farmers, fisherfolk and those in the rural and impoverished communities.

Yap said that initially, only three local government units (LGUs) were qualified under the project.

Meanwhile, the Japanese government, through its Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR), also gave a grant of \$2.8 million to finance livelihood projects in depressed rural communities of the country.

Dennis Jay C. Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau

## P100-M carageenan plant to start operations in 2005

DAVAO CITY—The seaweed industry here will get a needed boost following the start of commercial operations next year of a P100-million carageenan processing plant.

Merly Cruz, Department of Trade and Industry director for Southern Mindanao, said a local investor was putting the final touches to its processing plant in Toril district here.

She, however, declined to identify the investor.

She just said that the plant would boost economic growth and generate much-needed income for many families in the Davao region that rely on the seaweed industry for livelihood.

Cruz said the carageenan processing plant would hire some 500 workers and provide an opportunity for many seaweed planters to earn a monthly income of as much as P60,000.

Seaweed is the main ingredient for carageenan, which is used in many consumer products such as toothpaste and beverages.

The Philippines is one of the top three producers of carageenan in Asia.

Seaweed planting is a thriving business in Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and in Zamboanga.

"This new investment in Davao would surely result in massive planting of seaweeds," Cruz said.

"This is typical of a family backyard gardening, but the only difference is that you plant out in the sea," Cruz said.

A seaweed planter would need a boat, training and an initial investment of P12,000 for the purchase of the seedlings and equipment.

It takes a minimum amount of work since seaweeds will grow in its natural environment as long as the water is not too salty and not near any freshwater streams.

The seaweeds are ready for harvest after just 20 days from its first planting. After drying, these are ready to be sold to the processing plant.

Dennis Jay C. Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau

## Plantersbank increases stake in micro-enterprise bank

PLANTERS Development Bank has increased its stake in Davao-based Micro Enterprise Bank (MEB), a micro-finance thrift bank that aims to make credit and other banking services accessible to the working and entrepreneurial poor.

Plantersbank's increased equity would enable Micro Enterprise Bank to expand its network, from three offices to 36 branches, within three to five years and reach more low-income, self-employed groups nationwide.

MEB was established in November 2001 and is jointly owned by the World Bank's International Finance Corp., the Dutch government-controlled Netherlands Development Finance Co. (FMO) and Plantersbank.

Plantersbank chair and chief operating officer Ambassador Jesus P. Tambunting said the move would make Plantersbank more responsive to the needs of micro enterprises.

"Our goal is to expand our reach to a larger segment of micro enterprises, not only in Davao, but throughout the country," Tambunting said.

The World Bank and the International

Finance Corp., on the other hand, provided a technical assistance grant to improve the bank's management capabilities.

This would enable MEB to serve more borrowing accounts and expand its coverage.

As of September

turing and services sectors.

Plantersbank was fully committed to developing not only the country's SME sector, but the micro-enterprise sector as well, whose potential for economic growth remained largely untapped.



## ALL SAINTS DAY PUBLIC ADVISORY CITY OF MANILA

### ROAD CLOSURES

Starting at 6:00 am of October 31, 2004 up to 6:00 am of November 2, 2004, Aurora Boulevard from Rizal Avenue up to Makiling St. and peripheral roads shall be closed. On the same period, Retiro St. from Aurora Ave. up to Blumentritt, Dimasalang St. from Calle Tlago to Blumentritt, and Maceda St. from Retiro St. to Makiling St., shall be closed to vehicular traffic.

### RE-ROUTING OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

All vehicles coming from the north (Caloocan and Quezon City) going to Pier North (Manila) shall take C-3 Road towards Jose Abad Santos Avenue or Road 10. Vehicles coming from Quezon City going to Pier South (Ermita) shall take D. Tuazon St. or Mayon St. towards Espana St./A.H. Lacson Avenue (formerly Gov. Forbes Ave.) or to Quiapo as alternate routes.

### PARKING AREAS

Side streets beyond the road closures have been designated as parking areas with parallel parking to be strictly implemented.

### RESTRICTIONS INSIDE CEMETERIES

Except for security and emergency medical services vehicles specifically assigned inside the cemeteries, no vehicle shall be allowed inside the cemeteries starting at midnight on October 30, 2004.

Gambling, bringing in and drinking of liquor, bladed weapons (including bladed implements such as knives, grass cutters and the like), mobile and fixed sound systems, including portable music players, and streamers, are strictly prohibited.

Noisy, boisterous and disruptive activities are not allowed to ensure the solemn observance of All Saints Day.

Vending is strictly prohibited at the entrances and main roads of the North and South cemeteries. Vending is allowed along certain designated side streets but only for those with special permits from the Manila Hawkers Bureau.

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# Soaring energy costs weigh on US consumer confidence in Oct.

**NEW YORK**—US consumers turned gloomier in October, beset by soaring energy costs, relentless violence in Iraq, sluggish hiring and an increasingly bitter presidential campaign.

The Conference Board's gauge of consumer confidence fell to 92.8 in October, the lowest in seven months, from 96.7 in September, the private business group said on Tuesday. The reading was below economists' expectations for a dip to 94.

The main index was dragged down mainly by the consumer expectations component, which tumbled to 92.0 from 97.7. The current conditions index slipped to 94.2 from 95.3.

"Consumers are more concerned about the future than they are about current conditions, and I think that has a lot to do with the high oil prices we're seeing and probably some of the election rhetoric," said Gary Thayer, chief economist at A.G. Edwards & Sons in St. Louis.

In one slightly positive sign, 27.8 percent of

consumers surveyed said jobs were "hard to get," down a touch from 28.0 percent a month before. Nearly 34 percent had said employment was hard to find a year ago.

Despite strong economic growth, businesses are cautious about hiring workers while faced with record-high oil prices and steep health care costs.

"While consumers' assessment of the labor market showed a moderate improvement, the gain was not sufficient to ease concerns about job growth in the months ahead," Lynn Franco, director of the Conference Board's Consumer Research Center, said in a statement.

Markets mostly ignored the confidence data, as major stock indexes gained more than one percent mainly on a rebound in battered insurance shares.

Analysts and traders scrutinize consumer confidence gauges for hints on the outlook for spending, which drives two-thirds of the US

economy.

Households have consistently shopped for homes, cars and other goods despite worries over the economy, with low interest rates fueling borrowing, but some economists worry that weak hiring could undermine spending by debt-laden consumers.

Low mortgage rates helped boost existing home sales 3.1 percent in September to the third-highest pace on record, according to a report on Monday.

Two reports on Tuesday showed retail sales at US chain stores slipping in the latest week but still up between 3 percent and 4 percent from a year ago.

"We are watching the consumer with an eagle eye right now, looking for cracks in the armor. But chain store sales so far this month have been, if anything, slightly above plan," said Stephen Stanley, chief economist at RBS Greenwich Capital in Greenwich, Connecticut.

Reuters



## Unilever Q3 earnings up

**LONDON**—Food and consumer goods giant Unilever reported a 3 percent rise in third-quarter earnings on Wednesday but warned it was reviewing its targets up to 2010, after it issued a shock profits warning last month.

Anglo-Dutch Unilever Plc/NV, which owns brands such as Dove soap, Heinz's mayonnaise and Knorr soups, said nine-month earnings rose 7 percent, ahead of its reduced earnings targets, prompting its shares to edge higher.

But the group caused worries by saying it would review its 2005-2010 targets only eight months after announcing it would switch its focus to boosting shareholder returns, such as share buybacks and dividends, after failing to meet sales targets.

"We are reviewing our assumptions for the period to 2010 and will communicate the outcome of this review together with the full year results," Unilever's joint chairmen, Antony Burgmans and Patrick Cescau said in a results statement.

The Anglo-Dutch firm had not put any specific figures to its 2005-2010 targets.

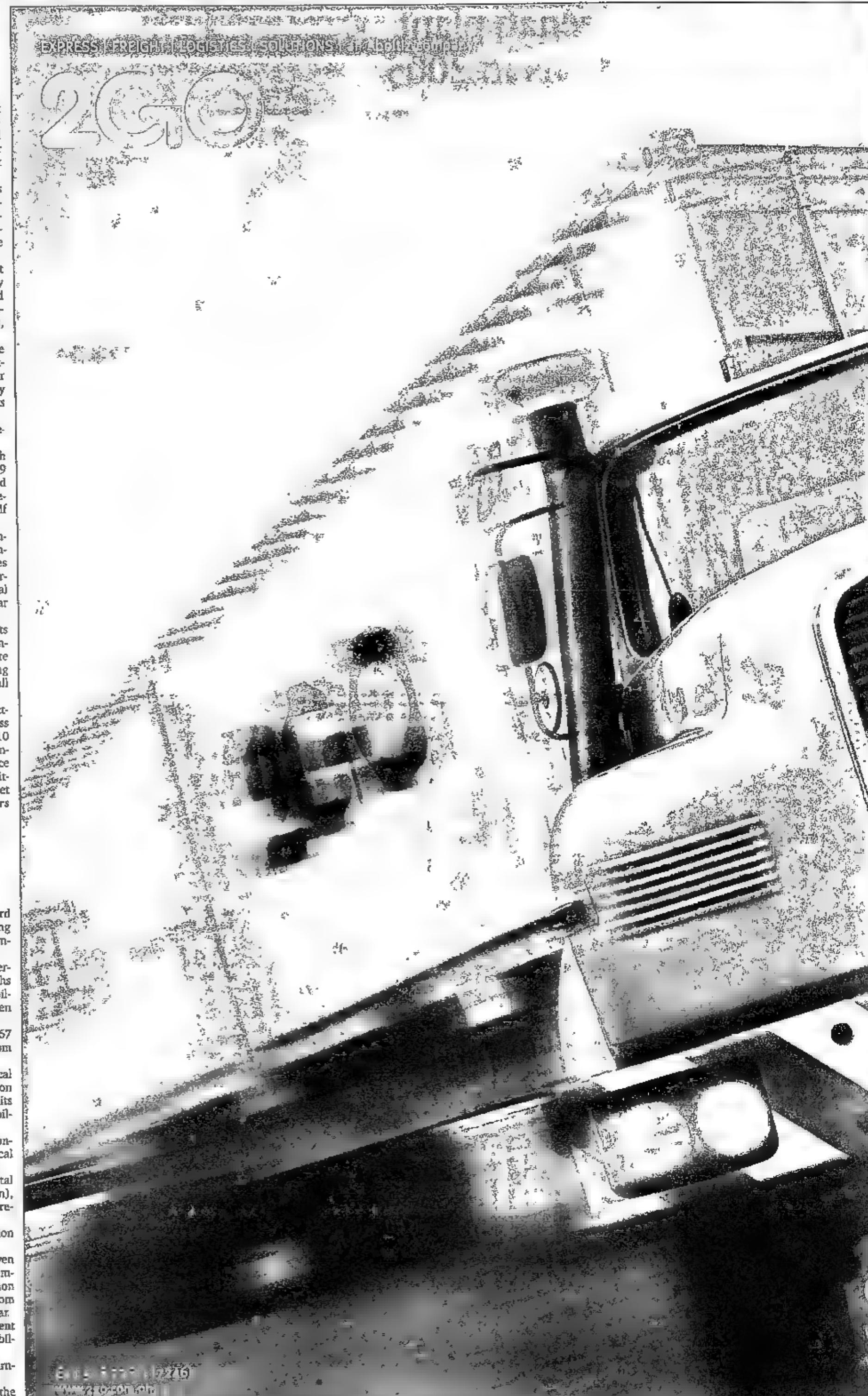
Sales of Unilever's 400 top brands, which made up over 95 percent of sales, dipped 0.9 percent in the third quarter after the second quarter's 0.2 percent fall, and were well behind the 0.5 percent rise seen in the first half of 2004.

The sales of these 400 leading brands—including Lux, Sunsilk, Vaseline, Omo and Comfort—is unlikely to match its February hopes when it saw growth ahead of 2003's 2.5 percent rise and well below 5-6 percent initial hopes from its now discredited five-year 2000-2004 "Path to Growth" strategy.

Unilever said it was dissatisfied with its performance and action is being taken to improve its competitiveness and reignite growth, but analysts warned this meant big rises in marketing and price cuts which will hit fourth-quarter earnings.

In September, the group warned it expected annual underlying earnings to grow by less than 5 percent, compared with more than 10 percent previously, following weaker-than-forecast trading in July and August in ice cream and ready-to-drink Lipton teas. It reiterated this low-single-digit earnings target for this year.

Reuters



## Honda reports record profits

**TOKYO**—Honda Motor Co. reported record fiscal first half profits Wednesday on strong sales in Asia and Europe, and raised its earnings forecast for the full year.

Japan's No. 3 automaker posted a 0.9 percent rise in net group profit for the six months ended Sept. 30 to 241.38 billion yen (\$2.3 billion; euro 1.7 billion) from 239.18 billion yen a year earlier.

First half sales rose 3.5 percent to 4.167 trillion yen (\$39 billion; euro 31 billion) from 4.025 trillion yen.

Honda raised its profit outlook for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005, to 447 billion yen (\$4 billion; euro 3.3 billion), from its forecast in July at 417 billion yen (\$3.9 billion; euro 3 billion).

The forecast is about 4 percent below Honda's 464 billion yen net profit for the last fiscal year.

Honda said it now expects sales to total 8.69 trillion yen (\$81 billion; euro 64 billion), up 6.5 percent from 8.16 trillion yen the previous fiscal year.

Honda had forecast sales of 8.56 trillion yen in July.

But Honda said a stronger Japanese yen pushed down its profits for the July-September quarter by 7.5 percent to 127.12 billion yen (\$1.2 billion; euro 1 billion), down from 137.36 billion yen the same quarter last year.

Group sales in the quarter grew 3.8 percent to 2.094 trillion yen (\$20 billion; euro 15 billion) from 2.017 trillion yen.

A strong yen tends to push down the earnings of exporters like Honda.

The US dollar cost about 110 yen in the quarter ended Sept. 30, while it was trading at nearly 118 yen a year ago.

AP

# Crude futures firm above \$55 a barrel

A CHINESE worker pumps petrol into a vehicle at a gas station in Beijing. China's booming economy is driving demand for coal, oil, power and transport that far outstrips national supplies, potentially leaving millions nationwide in the cold, the China Daily said. National authorities had warned that shortages of resources could trigger power cuts in at least nine provinces this winter, the newspaper added.

REUTERS

SINGAPORE—Crude oil futures hovered around the \$55-a-barrel mark Wednesday on fears of a heating oil shortage ahead of the northern winter, and oil cartel Opec urged Washington to release more oil from its strategic reserve to calm the market.

The price of oil maintained its lofty heights as traders continued to speculate that US government data about its commercial petroleum stockpiles, expected later Wednesday, was likely to show a fall in distillates for a sixth straight week.

December delivery crude stood at \$55.08 mid-afternoon in Asian after-hours electronic trade on the New York Mercantile Exchange—down nine cents from its overnight close.

It hit a record \$55.67 Monday before settling at \$55.17.

Even a slight increase may not do enough to cool a market ready to jump on any bit of bad news. Oil prices have risen more than 80 percent from a year

ago on the back of higher than expected demand primarily from China, supply fears and limited excess capacity.

Heating oil for November was trading at \$1.5690 per gallon (3.8 liters) Wednesday. The contract expires Friday.

London Brent for December was at \$51.45, down slightly from its closing price.

Opec president Yusef Yusgiantoro said Wednesday it has asked the United States to "use their oil reserves to help cool down the prices."

He said the group will discuss the issue further but did not say whether it had received a pledge from Washington on the matter.

The United States has just under 300 million barrels of crude in reserve, and a recent move to loan out 4 million barrels from its strategic reserve had a limited and short-lived impact.

Yusgiantoro has also asked Opec members to increase production "to

give a signal to the market that we aren't short of supply."

The 11 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries are already pumping at full tilt at a record 30 million barrels daily.

Unrest and production halts in member nations Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Venezuela have added to the price spike in recent months.

Though prices have moved more than \$10 in a month, they would need to reach \$80 per barrel in order to surpass the all-time peak, in inflation-adjusted terms, set in February 1981.

Crude oil price increases in the past month have primarily been due to the slow pace of recovery in the Gulf of Mexico, where Hurricane Ivan forced rigs to close and pipelines to shut from mid-September. More than 25 million barrels of production have been lost since Ivan hit, while 103.2 billion cubic feet of natural gas output was lost.

Underlying winter fears and supply disruptions in the world's third largest capacity—hovering about one percent above daily consumption of 82.4 million barrels, leaving little room to maneuver in a production outage.

Elsewhere, an impending strike in Nigeria—the world's seventh largest exporter—moved firmly onto traders' radar screens as the main workers' union moved for a nationwide work stoppage by Sunday to lower fuel prices.

Peter Akpatason, president of Nigeria's main blue-collar oil union, warned Tuesday that "if the government is adamant" in refusing to lower fuel prices, the next phase of the strike "will impact on production and exports."

The news from Nigeria—the fifth largest source of US crude—came immediately after markets eased after a return-to-work move by Norwegian oil workers after a four-month long strike.

## Asian shares bounce on Wall St. rally

SINGAPORE—Asian stocks bounced on Wednesday after the strongest rally in the Dow Jones index since June, but gains were capped by a slump among chip-related stocks and after another earthquake spooked Japanese investors.

Japan's Nikkei index lost momentum after a strong tremor rattled the area struck by a powerful quake on Saturday.

The Nikkei stock average recovered to close up 0.18 percent at 10,691.95.

Wall Street's rally was also expected to lift shares in Europe, where banks were in focus with results from Santander and Nordea.

Investors marked up shares in Unilever after the food and consumer goods giant reported a 3-percent rise in third-quarter net profit but warned it was reviewing its targets up to 2010.

In Asian share trade, exporters rose but many chip-related stocks fell after Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co.'s (TSMC) chief warned of a "gloomy feeling" as the boom in consumer electronics demand subsides.

TSMC shares fell 0.71 percent in Taiwan.

An MSCI index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan rose 0.42 percent. Gains in its healthcare component were offset by declines in the technology segment, which slid 0.49 percent.

Benchmark stock indexes rose between 0.2 percent and 0.38 percent in Hong Kong and Singapore, but fell 0.21 to 0.47 percent in Taiwan and South Korea.

Retailers, media, banks and mining stocks pushed Australia's benchmark index over one percent higher to an all-time record of 3,746.6 before easing back slightly.

Thailand's index dropped 2.53 percent following Muslim protests in the southern province of Narathiwat and reports that 78 protesters had died while in army custody.

Reuters

## S. Korea unlikely to hit GDP target

SEOUL—South Korea is unlikely to achieve a 5 percent economic growth in 2005, given slowing growth in neighboring China and firm global oil prices, a senior official at Moody's Investors Service told Reuters on Wednesday.

"For next year, 4 percent growth is plausible, but 5 percent will be difficult," said Thomas Byrne, senior credit officer at Moody's, who is visiting Seoul for a conference.

"China is slowing down somewhat. Oil prices are high and we have interest hikes in the United States and elsewhere. We are also facing slower growth in the US, Japan and other places," he said.

South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun said earlier this week that his government would do its best to achieve 5 percent economic growth in 2005, although he conceded a long-awaited recovery in consumption could be up to a year away.

Moody's Byrne said the biggest problems facing the South Korean economy, the third largest in Asia, were weak investment by domestic companies and bloated household loans.

"South Koreans can't finance consumption through debt any more ... South Korea will have fairly weak growth for the next couple of years unless household loans are reduced and companies make more investments," he said.

Exports have kept the economy on a recovery path, while households have been paying off a pile of credit card debt.

The ruling party and the government have recently announced a string of measures to boost the economy, including income tax cuts and increased budget spending on projects to create more jobs and boost investment.

The ruling Uri Party is pushing to raise government spending further in next year's budget. Any increased budget spending would probably lift South Korea's fiscal deficit above one percent of annual GDP envisaged under the current plan.

Reuters

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# OBITUARIES



## ROSARIO MENDOZA DE LOS REYES

of Magsingal, Ilocos Sur  
and Pinamalayan, Oriental Mindoro

**President, Rural Bank of Pinamalayan**  
**Owner, Delos Reyes Medical Clinic**  
**Owner, Delos Reyes Farms**

*Peacefully joined her Creator  
on October 23, 2004 at the age of 79.*

Her loving children Dr. Tony & Ching, Ataw & Marie, Abet, Engr. Bernie & Ana, Chichu & Nady.

Her loving grandchildren Uming, Kim, Bruce, Adrian, Lourdes, Macho, Andrew, Mickey, CB, DA, Erika & LA.

relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the family residence in Wawa, Pinamalayan, Oriental Mindoro.

Interment will be on Saturday, October 30, 2004 at the Heavenly Peace Cemetery, Oriental Mindoro after the 2:00 p.m. service.

*May she rest in peace.*

## GLORIA VALLIDO MANALO

of Noveleta, Cavite

*Passed away in the Grace of our Lord  
on October 25, 2004 at the age of 82.*

Her daughter DAISY MANALO YAMBAO; grandchildren JOJO and LUDE, GINA and ED, GIGI, GRACIE; great-grandchildren and other relatives request your prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at Chapel 14, New Wing, La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Funeral Mass will be held on October 29, 2004 at 8:00 a.m. at La Funeraria Paz. Interment will follow at the Noveleta Municipal Cemetery.

## SUSAN LEE HUAT ORTIGA



*Peacefully rests in the Grace  
and Goodness of Our Lord  
on October 25, 2004 at the age of 48.*

Her remains lie in state at the La Funeraria Paz Quezon City, Chapel Imperial

Interment will be on October 29, 2004, 9:00 a.m. at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque.

In Loving Memory  
on the 25th Death Anniversary of our dearly beloved

## CONSTANCIA M. MASCARIÑAS

(September 3, 1911 – October 28, 1979)

The righteous will be in everlasting remembrance

Psalm 112:6

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for your gestures of sympathy, your donations to Casa dela Providencia, your support for the distribution of Bibles and for everything else that you did to ease the heaviness of our hearts in the passage of our dear

## RIO

from her earthly existence to eternal life with Our Father.

She had lived with joy and through our sadness now, we seek to follow the reason for that joy.

**CHARLIE, ALI, CLAUDIA, JAYME**  
and the rest of the Cojuangco and Diaz families

## Our Dearly Beloved

## ATTY. DOMINGO (DOMINGUITO) MADARA GUEVARA

of Iriga City & Manila

*Peacefully joined our Lord on 25 October 2004 at the age of 83.*

His bereaved wife : Aida Agato Guevara

Children:

Imelda (Aimee), Domingo (Che) & Ines, Anacleto (Toti) & Edith, Henedina (Dina) & Jimmy Paraiso, Ma. Coronel (Marie) & Ramon Fonacier, Dennis & Nimfa, Gisela (Aya) and Roberto (Jobert) & Marie

Grandchildren:

Katrina, Santino & Joseph Guevara; Therese, Melany & Lawrence Guevara; Carlo & Angelo Paraiso; Miggy & Seida Fonacier, Nathaniel Guevara; and Benedict Guevara

Brothers & sister:

Judge Jose (†) & Dr. Nenita Madara; Atty. Manuel & Fe Guevara and Placida (Nene) Guevara (†)

Nephews & Nieces:

Sol & Ramon Malaya, Baby Madara, Buboy & Linda Madara, Aiding & Robert Caganda, Larry & Jimpee Madara; Bimbam & Roy Albulario, Babette, Boyce & Bebop Guevara

Cousins, relatives & friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains now lie in state at the Abbey of Our Lady of Montserrat (San Beda College Chapel), Mendiola, Manila and will be transferred to the Felicidad Chapel of the Arlington Memorial Chapels, Araneta Ave., Quezon City on Thursday, 28 October 2004 at 2:00 p.m.

Interment will be on Thursday, 4 November 2004 at the Heritage Park, Taguig after the 2:00 p.m. Holy Mass at the Arlington Memorial Chapels.

## Gracia Juana Carrillo Rojas

*Peacefully joined our Lord and her husband Emmanuel I. Rojas, Sr.  
on October 26, 2004 at the age of 92.*

Her bereaved children Noel & Lito, Eric & Judy, Ernie & Dedette, and Eddie and Nini; grandchildren Anna, Nina, Lisa (†), Brandon & Tori, Almee, Gina, Jon & Tunya, Faye & Tahr, Francis, Pia, Eric & Gladys, and Lorenzo; and great grandchildren, siblings Romulo & Peg (†), Cory (†) & Bebeng (†) Galang; nephews, nieces, and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Sanctuario de San Jose, Greenhills, San Juan.

Interment will be today, October 28, 2004 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

*"For God so  
loved the world,  
that He gave His  
only begotten Son,  
that whoever believes  
in Him shall not  
perish but have  
everlasting life."*

John 3:16



## SUBIC &amp; OLONGAPO

# Twin destinations for fun, sun and sea

Dennis E. Dungao  
Photos by Gershon Pertacorta

Inseparable and standing on common ground, based on heritage and natural beauty untarnished, Subic and Olongapo were, on record, two places and yet enigmatically single. Many lines had been written about these two fantastic locations, but mere words, it seems, always fail to depict, nor explain the true essence of each visit made. Even when you thought you knew everything about stylish places, a genre or the good life, you don't. You just have to feel it and live it to give meaning to these simple words of English this traveling lifestyle writer has so composed. Undoubtedly, Subic and Olongapo are the ultimate destinations this side of paradise for fun, sun and sea, guaranteed to catch your fancy for a wonderful and worthwhile getaway.

**A home of our own**  
At Forest Hills and East Gate Village Resort, rural and urban living comes hand in hand cohered with Mother Nature to give the ultimate feel of literally lying in the lap of luxury and savoring it! Fresh mountain scent complimented by blooming gardens of flowers in delightful shades. Lush green seems to go on forever on the horizons, invigorating tired eyes as the sun smiles upon a seemingly great day.

Forest Hill and East Gate Village Resort of-

fers lavish villas that you can call your "home" while in Subic. Introduced during the Apec Summit of 1996 that housed foreign dignitaries and other VIP's alike, these elegant steads own a classy address on El Kabayo Road, Binetican Drive inside the SBMA. Having full features of a house complete with a kitchen where you can cook, a dining room, receiving room and three bedrooms, including a master's quarter, every villa is a home away

TWIN/B14



PRETTY Pancake House Subic



## People, Events & Products

### Twelve Car Raffle Draw winners

IT'S been exciting weekends at the SM Supermalls since August, with one 1.2 Toyota Vios raffled off in its weekly Twelve Car Lucky Raffle Draw promotion.

Every P500 purchase at the SM Supermalls entitles one to a raffle coupon and a chance to win one of twelve Toyota Vios 1.2 cars.

So far, there have been 10 winners in the weekly draws. Two cars will be raffled off on Oct. 31 at SM City Bacoor and on Nov. 7 at SM City Davao. What does it take to be a winner? Here are what some of the lucky winners said:

Agnes Castro, a midwife from Quezon Institute, has pure luck on her side when she bought a bag worth P600 at SM City Sta. Mesa. She held one coupon, which she

submitted on the last day for entries in the mall, but went on to win a car last October. "I was really lucky," she says. "It's the best gift for my family this Christmas." Castro's husband who works overseas is coming home to claim the car.

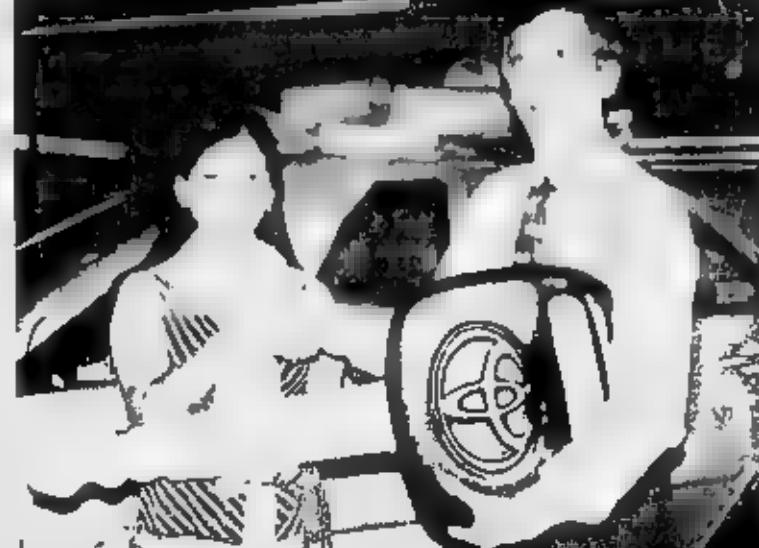
SM Supercenter Sucat winner Arnel Campos, on the other hand, had eight entries from buying clothes and groceries to the promotion. "SM has been good to me," says Arnel, a supervisor from Mizuho Corporate Bank. "I bought home a brand new car two weeks ago."

Ma. Lourdes Dango did some shopping at SM Southmall on the day she won. She would have ordinarily gone to SM City Bacoor, which is nearer her home, but decided to go to Southmall that day for a change

of routine. This definitely changed her life. Malou had five entries from buying clothes and groceries that day. "I guess we sometimes have to make changes," she smiles. "I did and won a brand new car."

SM City Davao's Eddie Estrabillo bought eyeglasses worth P4,000 and submitted eight entries to win a brand new car. Disbelief was the first reaction of this businessman when he received a call, "but when I was sent a notice, I was very happy." He adds that he wants to "thank SM for this brand new car."

Other winners in the Twelve Car Lucky Draw promotion include Giovanni Santoalle from SM City Lucena, Erlinda Mangubat from SM City Cagayan de Oro, Desiderio Cosunimo of SM City Iloilo.



SM SOUTHMALL winner Ma. Lourdes Dango is being awarded a brand new 1.3 Toyota Vios car by SM's division head for marketing Roby Decena.

### Halloween weekend at The Podium

THE PODIUM gets into the Halloween spirit this weekend with loads of spook-tacular fun, treats, and a mall-wide sale. It's a big treat - without the tricks - for Podium shoppers during the Halloween Special Weekend Sale, where they can get as much as 50 percent off from Oct. 29 to Nov. 1.

Shop until the witching hour during its Halloween Midnight Special as the mall extends its shopping hours until 12 midnight.

Great shopping continues from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Oct. 30 and from 12 noon to 10 p.m. on Nov. 1. Spook-tacular fun continues with the Halloween Kiddie Masquerade Party sponsored by Magnavision and presented by Samsung and Act I on Oct. 31 at 3 p.m. Well-loved characters like Stuart Little, Hellboy, Monster Rancher, Peter Pan, Barbie and Zoids will be there for the thrills, as well as magicians, jugglers and acrobats. Kids can come in their scariest best, go on trick or treating in the mall and have a chance to win exciting prizes in the Best in Costume contest.

private sector and the media into healthy dialogues on several issues under the theme: "Gobyerno, Napasyanta at Mamayahan: Nagkakaintindihan Pa Ba Tayo?"

### Weekends at Westgate

TAKE advantage of the best bargains in town and choose from the widest selection of apparel, food, accessories and other items for this gift-giving season only at Westgate Center's Market Greats. The bazaar will run from Oct. 26 to 31 and from Nov. 4 to 7. Kids will surely delight in the Trick or Treat Party, Westgate's special Halloween activity for the whole family. Sponsored by Coring Grille, it is slated on Oct. 31. Westgate Center is located at Commerce Avenue cor. Filinvest Avenue, Filinvest Corporate City in Alabang. For inquiries, call 807-5729 or 809-5428.

### Power+Faith+Image at the Ayala Museum

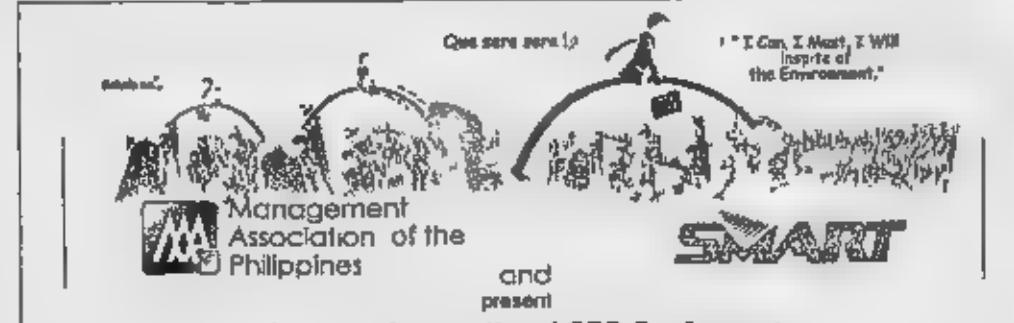
THE NEWLY opened Ayala Museum is having a guided tour today at 1:30 p.m. of the exhibition Power+Faith+Image: Philippine Art in Ivory from the 16th to the 19th century by one of the curators, Ramon Villegas. The exhibition showcases the popular images produced by Philippine carvers for the ecclesiastical and domestic markets. The new Ayala Museum is located at the corner of Makati Avenue and Dela Rosa St., Makati City. The museum is open from Tuesdays to Fridays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For inquiries, call Aprilia Tijam at 757-7117 to 21; 100-14.

### Choral fest

PETALS of Hope Inc., a cancer support group will hold its first fundraising event for the benefit of cancer victims on Oct. 30, 6 p.m. at the Assembly Hall of VL, Fort Bonifacio, Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila. It is a choral fest entitled The Musical Tones of Life to be participated by different choirs and glee clubs. Guest performers are Gakushi and Out of the Box. Those who are interested to buy tickets or to extend help for this support group may contact 722-6445/722-6291 or Juliet Cu at 0917-6675520.

### KSearch's 5th year

KSEARCH Asia Consulting Inc., an executive search and recruitment firm, marks its 5th anniversary on Oct. 29. Joining the management and staff of KSearch in their celebration are a few of their clients and former employees. The special occasion will start off with a Mass to be held at its office premise, followed with cocktails and dinner at the penthouse in its office building in 139 Corporate Centre in Valero Street, Makati. KSearch also launches its newly revised global website, www.ksearchasia.com, which will feature a variety of information relevant to its clients and candidates, as well as the general viewers. For more information about KSearch, you may call 818-8492 loc. 338 or simply visit the website.



3rd MAP International CEO Conference

11 November 2004, Thursday  
Rizal Ballroom, Makati Shangri-La

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Management Association of the Philippines

and present

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Conference Theme

"Survive and Excel In Turbulent Times"

11 November 2004, Thursday  
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### Speakers

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Senior Business Protection Advisor  
Microsoft Philippines

Mr. SIMON BERESFORD-WYLIE  
Senior Vice President, Asia Pacific  
Nikkei Networks (Singapore)

Mr. ERIC HIZON  
Broadcaster, British Broadcasting Corporation (Singapore)

Mr. ERIC HIZON  
Broadcaster, British Broadcasting Corporation (Singapore)

Mr. ANUPAM PRAKASH  
Asia Pacific Global Sourcing Leader  
Hewlett-Packard (India)

Mr. HENRY T. CO  
President, Ford Motor Company Philippines

Mr. RICHARD B. WELLINS  
Senior Vice President for Global Marketing and Business Development  
Development Division, International, Inc. (USA)

Mr. CECILIO K. PEDRO  
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Author of "Embracing Excellence" and the soon-to-be-released "Back on Track"

President and CEO  
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Microsoft

# Twin destinations for fun, sun and sea

From page B13

SUNSET at White Rock



WITH Ms. Jude Bartolome of Gerry's Grill

from home. Highlighted by centralized air condition system, chic furnishing and appliances, the smell and comfort of home is never missing. Forest Hills and East Gate Village Resort are a community. Everything you required in your usual community can be found here, like a swimming pool, clubhouse, sports facilities, grocer and even a village cafe. Everything was done with big attention to details to facilitate a most unforgettable stay with family and friends.

**Favorite wine and dine corners**  
Many claim that you may actually judge a place's character on how its people eat. Subic and Olongapo rate very high on these category.

Sam's Pizza by the main gate of the SBMA, which offers the most mouth-watering pizza in town. This one is a true Olongapo original. It has been there for 28 years now. The secret of its longevity in the restaurant business is its ability to adapt and reinvent recipes that were both classics and trendy. Sam's currently introduced delectable rice meals on its already delicious menu. Sam's Pizza is not just another pizza shop, it is an institution, a virtual landmark on Magsaysay Avenue.

Pancake House Subic is a boon to innovative dining, pleasing both the eyes and palates. "The outlet was given much detail on its architecture to compliment the beautiful setting of Subic. High ceilings and chic interior designs with a lots of see-through glass walls were a concept added to Pancake House Subic," says Paulerte Joy See, Pancake House Subic's franchisee. Along with Pancake House's sumptuous food offering, it is an irresistible invitation to get a slice of the good feel. Pancake House is more than just great pancakes, as a matter of fact, steaks such as Rib Eye, Sirloin and Tenderloin are most sought after items.

It is always a bundle of joy dining at my most favorite grill house, Gerry's. Undeniably delicious beyond the limits of the palettes, eating at Gerry's seaside restaurant at Subic is an added factor to an all too perfect dining pleasure as gentle, salty breeze coming from the sea greets you merrily. This branch was Gerry Apolinario's first out of town venture. Gerry's Grill pioneered dining at Subic's Moon Bay Marina. Jude Bartolome, resident manager of Gerry's Subic served us delicious classics Sisig, Inihaw na Pusit and Gerry's Fried Chicken.

Canina Mexicana within the complex of Papagayo Playa is a fresh discovery. Being adventurous when it comes to food, I've actually chewed a couple of giant "sili labuyo" served with my Pork Carnitas and Fish Burritos. With tons of nachos and beer to go by, the dare I've made to myself was rewarding - flavors just exploded on my tongue & put me into gastronomic cloud nine. Papagayo Playa is located on Barrio Baretto along the National Highway.

Nightlife was never absent on each Subic and Olongapo visit. It comes naturally and synonymous as breathing on these two places. Subic Hard Rock, Subi Subic and Dewey Disco and KTV Bar are personal recommendations of the highest form. These places just know how to party! Subic Hard Rock has live performers that tour the entertainment circuits of Metro Manila and other big towns. Dewey Disco and KTV is every gen-jemian's corner that caters to an array of international clientele. Subi is undeniably the queen of Moon Bay Marina when it comes to having a real good time. Ledge Dancing and Bikini Opens were legendary at this place.

Prenzed nights down in dance music sound, Subic Hard Rock, Subi, and Dewey's stand out from the rest. All sort of long night parties, you name it, it happens. These places are dedicated to those who dare to be wild. Stay up late, get involved and get crazy over lavish nights of merriment.

#### Hit the waters!

Subic and Olongapo's nature and urban offerings will never cease to captivate. The pristine seas and invigorating heat of the sun are for everyone to share and enjoy. Resorts, big and small, abound within the areas of Subic and Olongapo. They will surely leave you still and breathless.

White Rock Beach Resort is a landmark feature. No one should miss this place. Seeing the sunset and dipping my toes on the waters, I stood and stared in silent lucidity and whispered, "Oh look what hath God has wrought!" I found myself at a lost for words seeing the

TOASTING the good life with Julie Son of Subic



DEWEY'S Disco and KTV at Dewey's Avenue

## Zoobic Safari's amiable charm

SNAKING through the mountain roads of the SBMA, and having quite a few monkey as pedestrians, my travel to Zoobic Safari was rewarded by awesome display of nature in all its magnificence. The verdant and spacious Haven Forest is the location of Zoobic Safari. This is home to my most favorite cat in the world the majestic tiger Natasha and Vladimir, the latest addition to Zoobic Safari's growing tiger population were mere "kittens" the last time I saw them. Cuddly and playful, they were very friendly to guests, especially children who share their boundless energy.

Nicolas the bear was also a new encounter. Mischievous in a very playful way Yogi Bear came into my mind. Nicolas actually loves to have his picture taken and pose with guests and I swore if I had my picnic basket with me he could have snatched it and ran away with it.

Barely on its soft opening process, the Zoobic Safari already has countless offerings waiting to be experienced. Amiable animals like Nicolas the bear, tiger cubs Natasha and Vladimir and scores of others were but a couple of its attractions aside from the "Safari Jeep Ride", Serpentarium and woodland zoo. Its friendly charm comes as natural as its setting.



The urge to achieve true fun and an everlasting zest for the sun and sea were inherent in them. This consummates into a brand uniquely Subic and Olongapo.



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Subic Bay has a variety of exciting activities for every member of the family. There is an entire selection of water sports from yachting, windsurfing, jet-skiing and diving. The hotel also has the facilities for Ocean Adventure, mini-golf, tennis, badminton and water polo. After playing in the duty-free plaza, the entire family can do aqua trekking and watch the sunset at the infinity pool, the beach and the water park.

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beauty that transpired before me.

Garden View Resort is for the budget conscious traveler who wants to partake of the joy drawn from the sea, without boring a hole in your pocket. Here you can frolic and play to your heart's delight. Located on Barrio Baretto, economic rooms and delicious seafoods are available to everyone here.

Subi Yacht Club, By The Sea Resort Hotel and Scuba Shack Dive Center should be on your list of places to see and activities to do. Bhing Salazar, feisty diver and operations manager of Scuba Shack down by Moon Bay Marina extends her invitation to adventure by trying the sport of diving. Subi Yacht Club is a grand reason to see Subic. This is the good life served in the most exquisite manner. By The Sea Resort Hotel is a family friendly hotel at the shore of Olongapo. Service rating is high.

**No ordinary offerings**  
Fun, sun and sea, true enough were not exclusively found on Subic and Olongapo. Places from the north to south of the country has these on their menu, but a close scrutiny on what lies beneath, we shall see that Subic and Olongapo definitely top the rest. Needless to say, people of this place have but an extra gene to explain the philosophy of how they became so friendly and accommodating in an unassuming way. The urge to achieve true fun and an everlasting zest for the sun and sea were inherent in them. This consummates into a brand uniquely Subic and Olongapo. The kind of service and luxuries they parade are tinged with character only true inhabitants can give and derive.

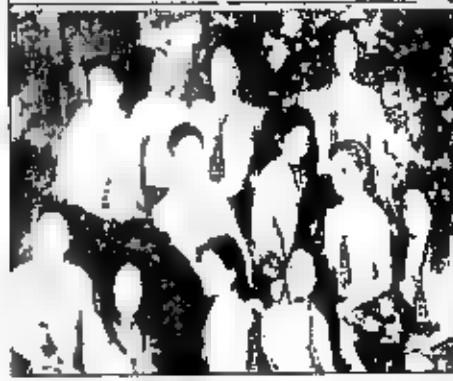
Every visit worries me, I am always tempted to stay a little longer.

**SUBIC Hard Rock**  
Pizzahaus & Restaurant

# 09 Magsaysay Drive  
Olongapo City Philippines  
\* Telephone Nos. (047) 223-3199  
or 222-4214 (telefax)

\* Email: subichardrock@yahoo.com

**DEWEY'S Disco & KTV**



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Subic Bay Freeport Zone 20  
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(047) 2524271  
Fax: (047) 2523711

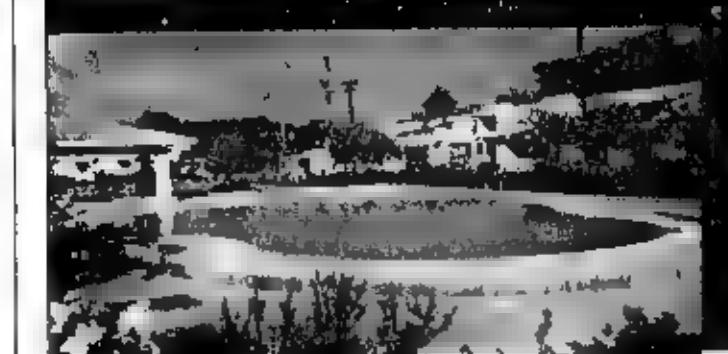
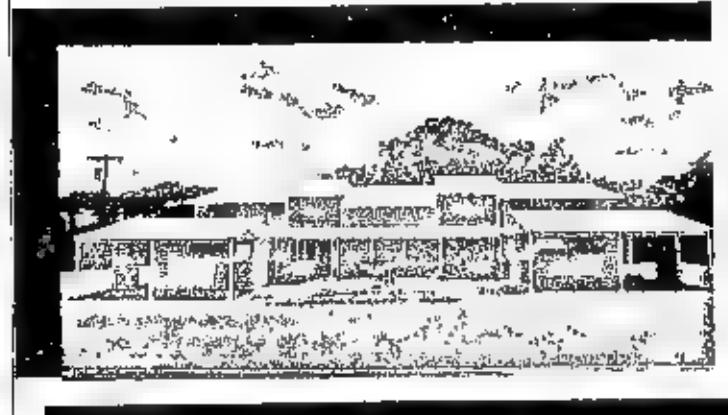


**THE SUPER SQUARE PIZZA!**

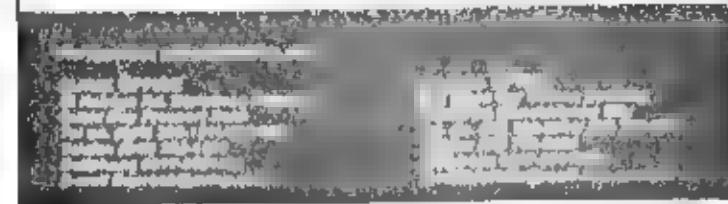
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How about a home where every nook and cranny is utilized to provide more space, going as far as having a roofdeck to accommodate any family activity you can think of? Maybe even make it into another bedroom when the kids grow up and want a private space of their own?

Well, wonder no more because Filinvest Land Inc recently launched the Tree Series house models amidst the verdant greens of Crystal Aire.

The house blessing was officiated by Fr. Claro Sumage. It was attended by guests, buyers, brokers and Filinvest Land project team headed by Roberto Arcoba - project group head of Fatura

Value Homes Division; Rey Maribao - business development officer; Rowena Aguilar - business development assistant; Edgar Elon - sales officer.

termite-resistant because they are made from reinforced concrete shear walls and ceiling. Plus, they have painted and finished exteriors and interiors so moving in will surely be hassle-free.

More importantly, the Tree Series homes inside Crystal Aire can be yours for as low as P7,000 monthly, applicable to Narra unit at 15 years bank financing.

Crystal Aire is located at Gen. Trias, Cavite and accessible to various commercial centers, schools and hospitals. You can also enjoy community amenities like the clubhouse, tree park, swimming pool, putting green, basketball court, jogging trail, tennis court and children's playground.

For details, please call Edgar Elon at 727-0431 local 136 or log on to [www.filinvestland.com](http://www.filinvestland.com).

Aside from the roofdeck, the Tree Series models are also water-, fire- and



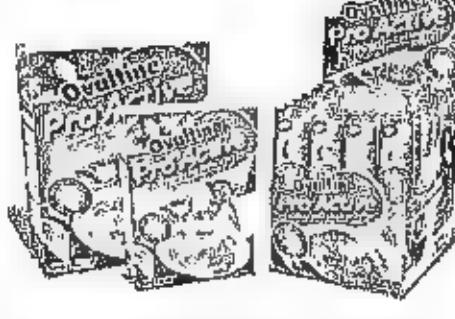
## THREE YOUNG FILIPINOS QUALIFY FOR SHELL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Janice Lao, Chester Dabalos, and Neil Ongkingco are three young Filipinos, who were recently accepted as successful candidates of the 2004-2005 Shell Centenary Chevening and Royal Dutch/Shell Centenary Scholarship Fund. They were among the 88 successful aspirants from 40 countries, who applied for the Shell Centenary Scholarship fund, which is on its seventh year in the United Kingdom and on its first year in the Netherlands. The scholarship will cover tuition, accommodation, maintenance cost and a return airfare for the scholarship holder. The Shell Centenary Scholarship Fund (SCSF) offers postgraduate students from developing countries the opportunity to study in the UK and gain skills that will make a long-term contribution to the further development of their countries. In photo are (from left) Shell companies in the Philippines country chair Edgar Chua, Janice Lao, Chester Dabalos, Neil Ongkingco and Philippines Shell VP for corporate affairs Romy de Guzman during their visit to Shell House, Makati on Aug. 30.

## Product FILES

### New Ovaltine ProActive

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## IDEAL MINDS SIGN UP WITH IBC 13

From the makers of much-nominated shows like On Air Single and The Misadventures of Maverick and Arteria, Ideal Minds Corporation has now ventured into a new endeavor that will change your regular Wednesday viewing habit. Last Sept. 24, Ideal Minds signed with IBC 13, a co-production deal that will feature 3 straight hours of non-stop innovative Ideal Minds shows every Wednesday night. Starting Jan. 5, 2005, 7 to 10 p.m., your Wednesdays will never be the same again as Ideal Minds' 5 new shows take primetime center stage. Shown in photo are Ideal Minds Corp general manager Chris Tan and IBC 13 president Philip Juico shaking hands after the agreement signing.

# PUBLIC RELATIONS: COMMUNICATING FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

## 12th National Public Relations Congress

## OPENS TODAY!

October 28-29, 2004 Diamond Ballroom, Manila Diamond Hotel

*It's all about doing good and telling it well - especially in government. This year's Congress highlights effective communication as a tool for meaningful governance. Representatives from the government and the private sector present best practices in communicating their initiatives and engaging stakeholders to reach common goals.*

### DAY 1

#### OPENING ROUND TABLE SESSION: Communicating the National Economic Reform Agenda

Mayor Jose "Lito" Atienza

Communications Director Silvestre Afable

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye

Government Media Group Head  
Cerge Remonde

Noemi Saudo

#### COMMUNICATING THE 10-POINT ECONOMIC PROGRAM

*A look at communication efforts that spur livelihood and productivity and engage the cooperation of stakeholders to meet common ideals.*

Gary Teves

Wigberto Tañada

### DAY 2

#### COMMUNICATING BASIC SOCIAL SERVICES

*A look at campaigns that create awareness on and engage participation for social service initiatives and programs such as health, education, employment, and housing.*

Secretary Manuel Dayrit

Francisco Duque III

Romero Federico Quimbo (represented by Margie Jorillo)

Luis Lorenzo

#### THE COMMUNICATION PARADIGM SHIFT

*How to address popular thinking that may challenge your efforts and eventually shift the mindset of the target audience.*

Eduardo Manzano

Father Benigno Beltran

Teresa Abesamis

# "GOBYERNO, NEGOSYANTE AT MAMAMAYAN: Nagkakaintidhan pa ba kayo?"

Magtagap-tapat sa isang makabuluhang pagtitipon upang talakayin ang iba't-ibang usaping magsusulong sa mga isyu, programa at pagbabago!



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Bldg., Valeria Street, Iligo City  
Tel. No.: (033) 335-1213

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3rd Floor, Arista Therme  
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**PHILIPPINE Long Telephone Distance**
**BUSINESS****Business willing to help  
gov't raise revenue**

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

**BIG** businesses are willing to chip into President Macapagal-Arroyo's efforts to shore up government revenue but they are wary of being milked dry by the high taxes on their operations that are being pushed in Congress.

A top executive of a leading telecommunication firm said that while big business recognized the urgency of boosting government revenue to avert a full-blown fiscal crisis, there was only so much that these firms could shell out without affecting their operations.

"Big business wants to help the President meet her target of raising government revenue by P80 billion a year but we certainly cannot afford to pay for the entire thing. The government has to look at other areas for more taxes," the telecommunication executive said.

Based on data provided by the Bureau of Internal Revenue, the country's top 25 corporations paid P117.822 billion in taxes in 2003 or more than 20 percent of the P537 billion in total taxes collected for the same year.

These three industries are also the target of high taxes by the Arroyo administration's tax reform package—the indexation of sin taxes, the P2 per liter oil tax, and the 7-percent franchise tax on telecommunication firms.

Of the top 25 corporate taxpayers, the biggest were from the "sin products" industry accounting for P40 billion. These were San Miguel Corp. (P16.27 billion), Fortune Tobacco Corp. (P13.478 billion), Philip Morris (P8.343 billion), and La Tondeña Distillers Inc. (P2.876 billion).

The petroleum industry followed with P24.005 billion broken down as follows: Petron Corp. (P9.657 billion), Pilipinas Shell (P8.619 billion), and Caltex Philippines (P5.729 billion).

The third biggest was the telecommunication industry, accounting for P12.482 billion. The biggest taxpayers from this sector were Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (P5.226 billion), Smart (P4.51 billion), and Globe Telecoms (P2.746 billion).

These three industries are also the target of high taxes by the Arroyo administration's tax reform package—the indexation of sin taxes, the P2 per liter oil tax, and the 7-percent franchise tax on telecommunication firms.

A member of the Economic Managers Group, who requested anonymity, said the government should strike a middle ground be-

tween the need for more revenue and the big business' corporate profits to avoid "tax fatigue" where an industry's growth could be stunted by too many taxes.

The same EMG official cited the ongoing discussions in the House of Representatives where congressmen agreed to adopt a 20 percent across-the-board increase in the excise taxes on alcohol, cigarettes and tobacco products in the first year and another 3 percent in the second and third years. By the fourth year, the sin taxes would have to be pegged on the inflation rate in the previous two years.

The official said the 20 percent rate was a "positive step" in boosting revenues (even though it was below the 30 percent targeted by the Department of Finance) as long as it would ensure the quick passage of the bill and bolster investor confidence in the country.

But Revenue Commissioner Guillermo Parayno flatly rejected the notion that big corporations were already experiencing "tax fatigue."

"I don't think they are fatigued because their industries have the lowest tax rates in the region," says Parayno.

**PLDT implements new rate in Cebu**

By Clarissa S. Batino

Co. said it was adopting a single phone rate in the province of Cebu, even for calls from one town to another.

Prior to the adoption of the new rate scheme, Cebuanos pay a national long distance charge of P4 per minute for calls from one Cebu town to another.

All calls within Cebu are now considered local calls and are, therefore, no longer subject to NDD rates. The new rate applies even to calls from a PLDT subscriber to a subscriber of another phone company within the province, according to the telecom giant.

Of PLDT's 2.13 million fixed-line subscribers, 130,280 are in Cebu.

PLDT president Napoleon Nazareno said that if the new phone scheme would prove to be effective, the company might consider doing the same in other provinces.

Cebu Gov. Gwendolyn Garcia said this would mean savings for the people of Cebu who depend on telecommunications services for their businesses and other purposes.

Nazareno said the "one province, one rate" program in Cebu was aimed at helping accelerate the province's transformation into an information and communications technology or ICT hub in the country and eventually in the region.

The removal of the long distance charges in Cebu is also expected to enhance the growth of businesses in the province and provide more opportunities for Cebuanos.

Covered by the new rate scheme are Talisay, Naga, Minglanilla, San Fernando, Sibonga, Carcar in the first district and Argao, Acoy, Oslob, Samboan, Dalaguete, Bolojoon, Santander, Ronda, Ginatilan, Alegria, Moalboal, Dumanjug, Malabuyoc, Badian, Alcantara in the second district.

From the third district, covered are the towns of Barili, Pinamungajan, Asturias, Toledo City, Luopan, Aloguinsan, Tuburan, Balamban and from the fourth district are Tabuelan, San Remigio, Medellin, Daanbantayan, Santa Fe, Bantayan, Madridejos, Bogo, Tabogon.

Also, covered are Liloan, Carmen, Pilar, Sogod, Compostela, San Francisco, Catmon, Danao City, Borbon in the fifth district and Consolacion, Lapulapu City, Cordova, Mandaue City in the sixth district.

**GSMi Q3 earnings up**

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

last year by 5 percent.

GINEBRA San Miguel Inc. (GSMi) said its earnings from July to September grew 10.2 percent to P356.4 million, boosted by strong sales in northern and southern Philippines and soaring exports.

GSMi also said operating income jumped 15.5 percent to P579 million.

Sales volume grew 12.2 percent, raising the company's third-quarter net sales revenue by 14.4 percent to P2.93 billion, from P2.56 billion last year.

As of Sept. 30 this year, GSMi, the hard liquor subsidiary of San Miguel Corp. (SMC), already surpassed its nine-month net income

The company posted a net income of P1.31 billion from January to September this year, up from P1.25 billion in the same nine-month period last year.

Operating income as of Sept. 30 was up 7.2 percent to P2.04 billion, while net sales revenue stood at P8.97 billion from P8.6 billion year-on-year.

Year-to-date export volume exceeded last year's level by 782 percent.

SMC earlier said it would build a P1.8-billion alcohol distillery in Mindanao and expand its existing distillery in Negros Occidental to meet growing demand for GSMi's products both here and abroad.

**RFM sells stake in Iglo**

RFM Corp. is selling its 70-percent stake in a local cold storage firm to its Malaysian partner Iglo International Ltd. for about P105 million, sources told the Inquirer.

The sale will allow RFM to raise additional funds for its branded food and beverage business.

RFM disclosed to the exchange yesterday that it was sealing its entire holdings in Integrated Global Low Temperature Operations Phils. Inc. (Iglo) to Iglo International.

The sale will make Iglo 100-percent owned by the Malaysian partner.

The proposed sale is expected to be completed in 60 days.

Iglo has a cold storage logistics facility in Pasig servicing the cold storage requirement of Selecta Walls Inc., RFM's investment in the ice cream business.

RFM Corp. recorded a profit of P15 million from April to June this year, a turnaround from the P65 million in losses during the second quarter last year. Sales for the quarter grew 8.8 percent to P1.4 billion while operating income was at P73 million, much better than an operating loss of P32 million in the same period last year.

"We are beginning to see the first fruits of our investments in brand building even as we tighten up on our product supply costs and operating expenses," Jose A. Concepcion III, RFM president and chief executive officer, said in a statement.

In the first half of the year, however, the company recorded a net loss of P15 million, lower than its loss of P98 million in the same period last year. Elizabeth L. Sanchez

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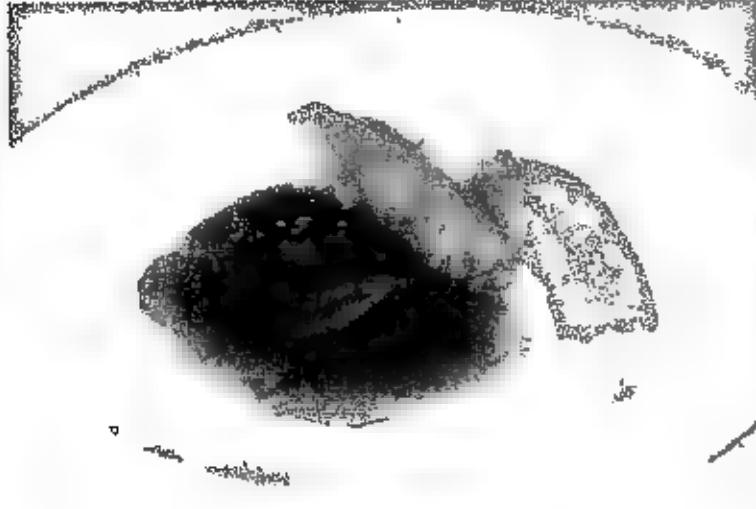
  
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CHEF Yeung Koon Yat's signature dish—braised dried Japanese abalone with kailan in superior sauce. Simple, unpretentious and oh so tender.



THIS unique plate holds chef Nancy Oakes' delicious duck breast stuffed with porcini mushrooms on baby spinach salad.



THE VARIOUS dishes created by the ICP that are now available in SIA flights

# Book the Chef when you book the flight

From page C1

Portale, who is executive chef and co-owner, Gotham Bar and Grill, New York City, as dining at higher altitudes continued to change. Asked what he remembers as the best meal on a plane, he commented, "Singapore Airlines' food is certainly very good. Our figures talk, we're far ahead of the competition!"

At the ICP dinner, French chef and wine-maker Blanc de Vonnas, France, autographed my copy of the menu with his famous chicken signature that "is the only chicken deserving the appellation contrôlée like the best wines." Blanc has been with ICP since 1998, and to him the spirit of the dish is most important. The cooking method and freshness of the ingredients make for good sauces.

"The essence of my cooking is that it should prepare you for get-up-and-go, and not going to bed for three days afterwards," said Ramsey, proprietor and head chef of the restaurant bearing his name in Chelsea, England.

Oakes, proprietor and executive chef of Boulevard Restaurant in San Francisco, did not agree that airlines should serve snack boxes instead of hot meals. "The challenge is in economy class. How to make it an experience and provide flexibility of timing and answer nutrition concerns in all meals," she noted. She would like to translate Western food into small plates, much like Spanish tapas, put together in one tray "to amuse" the passenger.

For the ICP dinner, Yeung Koon Yat, proprie-



CHEF Gordon Ramsey and the author

tor, manager and head chef of Forum Restaurant in Hong Kong hand-carried the abalones from Japan. He prefers rich and elaborate Cantonese cuisine and uses the clay pot to preserve the original taste of his ingredients. The honor he treasured most, he said, was the Gold Medal presented by the Club Des Chefs des Chefs in 1996, since he is one of only three people in the world who have received it.

To deliver an authentic Kaiseki experience, Murata, proprietor and head chef of Kikunoi and Roan Kikunei in Kyoto, emphasizes seasonality of ingredients, close attention to the flavor, texture, aroma and visual composition of his food. He's not afraid to experiment and draws inspiration from Western dishes.

Moran, proprietor and head chef of Aria in Sydney, has been with the ICP for one-and-a-half years. "I love doing this for SIA."



A TANGY vegetarian platter by chef Satish Arora, the finale of the ICP degustation dinner



ROAST wild salmon, fennel confit, romaine tomato and black olive oil, lemon basil emulsion—chef Alfred Portale's example of New American Cuisine



AT SIA kitchen's tray assembly line, an all-women crew put together the food components that comprise meals for all classes.

It's important for us to put our names on quality." Asked what the new trends in food are, he said that "it is produce-driven. What is new is what evolves, like the Kingfish Hiramasa, an excellent fish, oily, but like tuna." In 1995, he stayed 10 days at Hotel InterContinental in Makati, enjoyed our cock fights and went out of town to visit the hot springs.

Arora, director of food production for India's Taj Group of Hotels, envisions serving airline food on a thali made of stainless steel or gold plated, introducing traditional Indian flavors but with a modern presentation and evolving more ethnic dishes that also reflect contemporary health preferences.

We progressed slowly through each course, relishing each bite, taking in the nuances of flavors and gushing at the delightful presentations (like the unique plate used by Oakes for her stuffed duck breast with porcini mushroom). And naturally, each course was complemented by a sampling of the finest wines served in First Class: a Dom Pérignon 1996, Domaine Laroche Chablis Premier Cru 1999,

or a Chateau Pichon Longueville Grand Cru Classe 1997

## Just desserts

By the sixth course though, we were ready to throw in the towel; we'd not been trained for so much gustatory action! But just when we thought it was all over, we were led to still another room for the dessert buffer.

This was a visual high light—the darkened room had subtle spotlights focused on huge blocks of ice that held hundreds of gorgeous fruit sherbets, pretty cakes and pastries (yes, some were durian flavored!). We had to make more space for these sensational desserts, accompanied by sips of Warre's 20-year-old Tawny with our coffee.

I've tasted the creative artistry of some of the world's greatest chefs, and it was truly unforgettable. The amazing thing is that this same fine dining experience can be shared by passengers on all three flight classes of Singapore Airlines. So the next time I'm seated on a plane, I will definitely "read the menu and savor the moment."



FROZEN ice in fruits—you can't possibly pass up these sherbets of guava, rock melon, strawberries, peaches and durians. They're so gorgeous!



CHEFS Koon Yat and Portale wait for the media people's questions.

## GUYITO WILD HUNT



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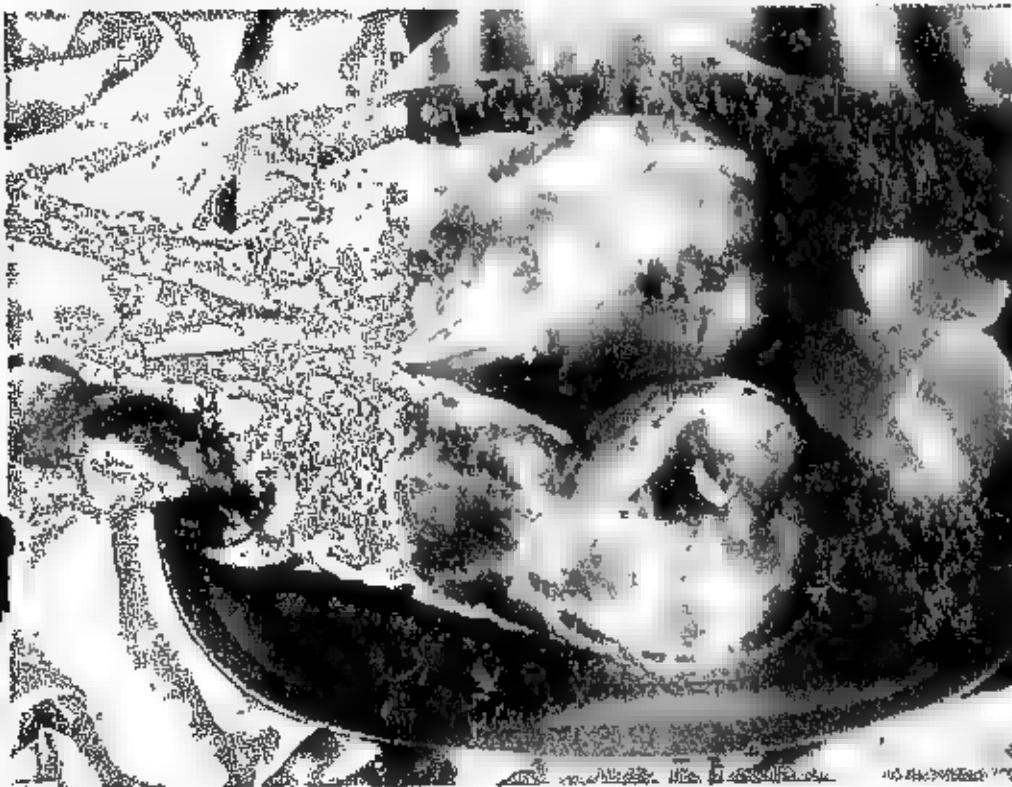
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## Seafood galore

**SEAFOOD** Wharf Restaurant features Steamed Lapu-Lapu in soy sauce. Sea Mantis sautéed in chili sauce and Lobster grilled in lemon butter sauce this month. The restaurant is located at the Old Army and Navy complex, T.M. Kalaw Avenue, Rizal Park, Ermita, Manila. Call 4005066.

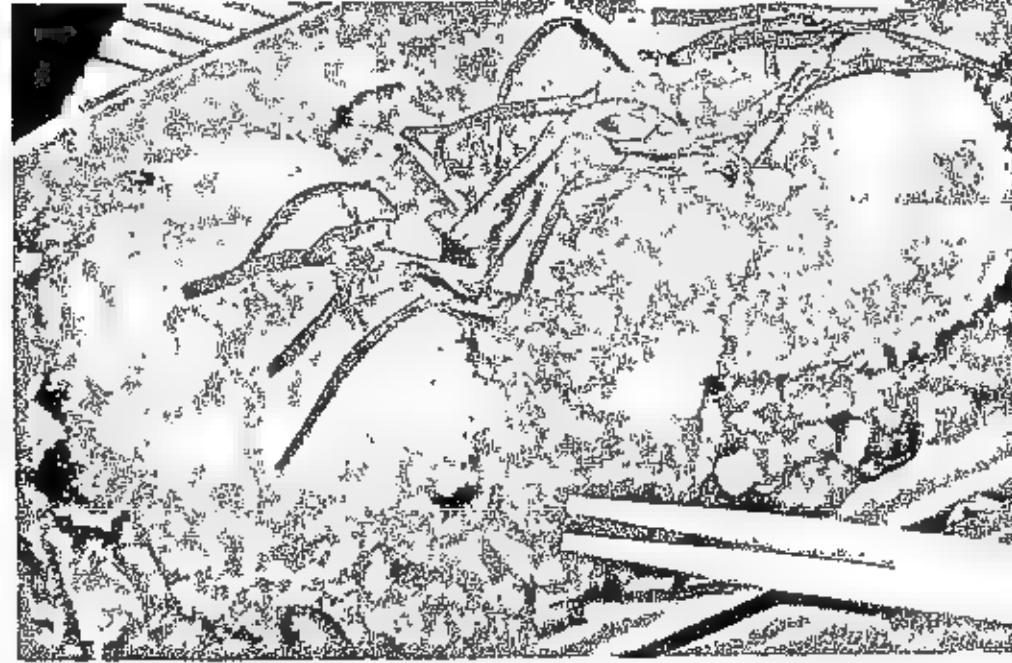
**ILANG ILANG** Restaurant at 551 Lang Lang Street, Binondo, Manila, offers more than 200 entries of authentic Chinese dishes. House specialties include Rellenong Hapon, Lomi, Steamed Taro Cake with Crab Meat, Kiam, Braised Pork Stew (Hong Ma), Stuffed Eight Treasure Chicken, Deep Fried Tender Juicy Pigeon, Braised Chicken Fest, Atay con Bawang and Glutinous Flour Rings. The restaurant also serves different healthy meals including rice toppings. For budget-conscious customers, it offers Lunch Compo meal consisting of two main courses, rice and a drink. The restaurant is open from 8 a.m.-11 p.m. Delivery service from 9 a.m.-10:45 p.m. Call

### DINING OUT

2423266/2419297 to 98 or fax 2449016.  
EDSA Shangri-La's Summer Palace presents the Abalone Festival until Oct. 31. This seafood is cooked double-boiled whole with chicken, sautéed and shredded with bean sprouts, braised whole abalone with vegetables, sliced with fresh bean curd stick in oyster sauce and a iced in corn style. Call 6347373.

**THE HERITAGE** Hotel Manila presents a buffet spread of international cuisine. Featured are Pasta Ravioli, Roast Lamb in Mint Sauce, Beef Osso Buco, Baked Mixed Seafood Thermidor, Steamed Fish Fillet with supreme soy sauce, Thai-style Fried Crab. Call 8548868.

**CHILI'S** Grill and Bar Restaurant offers steaks, salads, burgers, wraps, fajitas, desserts and mixed drinks. Chili's is at Greenbelt, Makati, Northeast Greenhills and Tomas Morato, QC.



KITARO offers Rainbow Maki made of salmon, tuna, tamago and kani; and Tofu Steak, three pieces of breaded tofu with vegetable and mushroom sauce until Oct. 31.

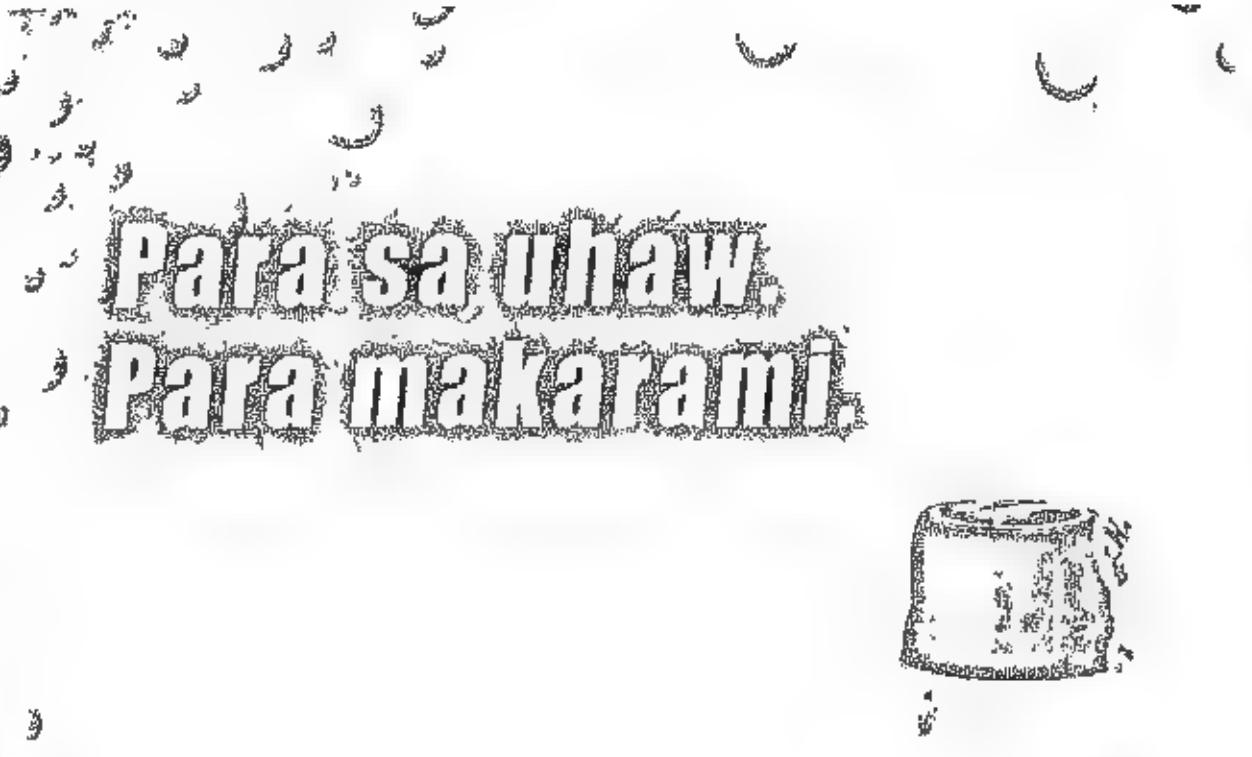
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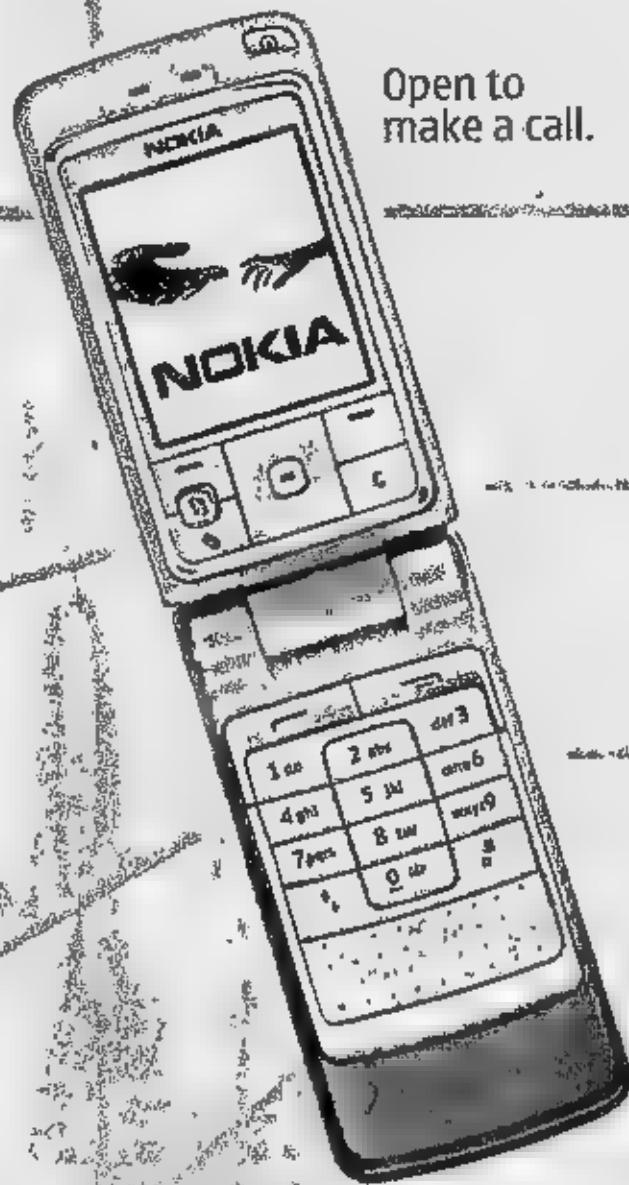
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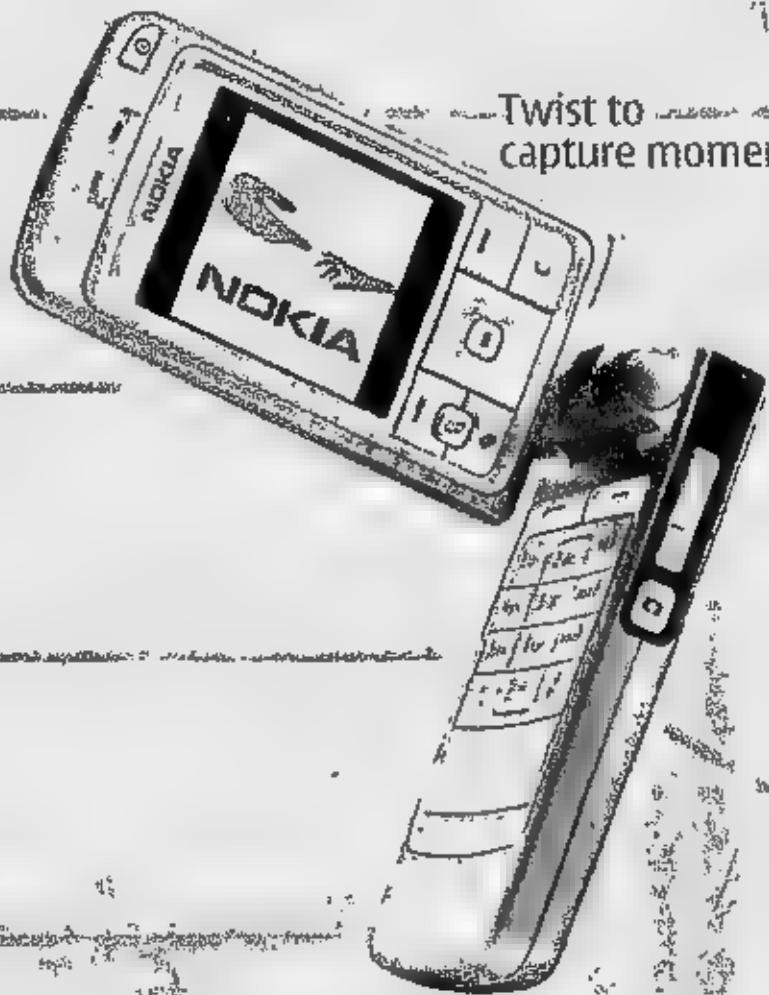
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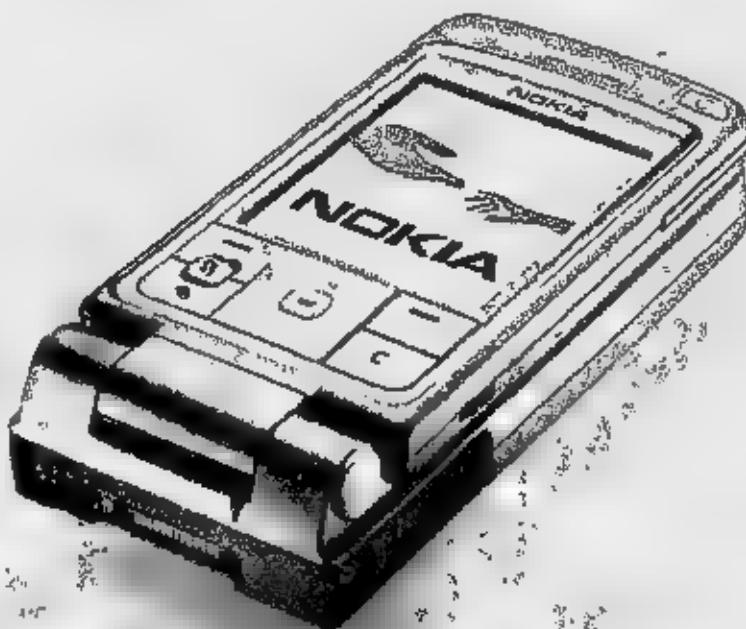
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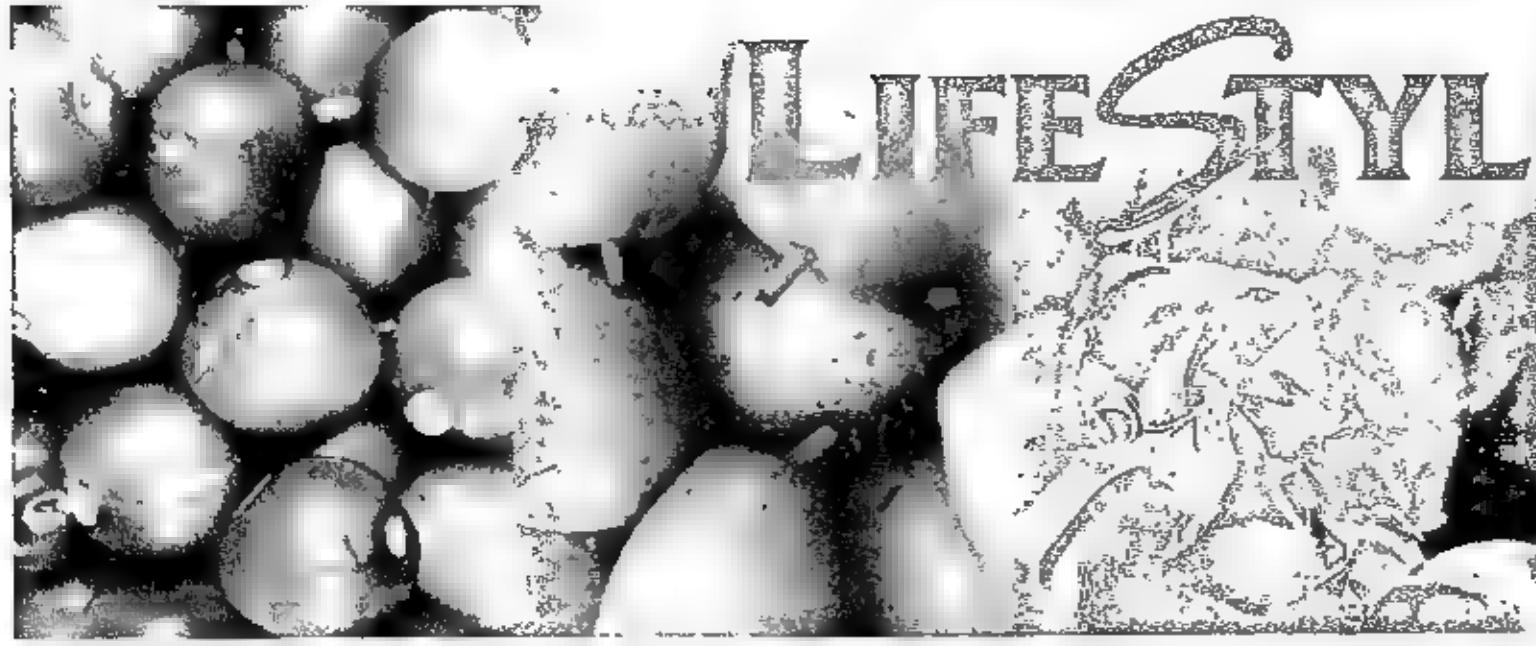


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CLAUDINE Manggassing is the person to call for imported fruits, plums, pears and others, as well as nuts.

# LIFE *STY*LE

## October fetes 2

**O**N OCT 10, my favorite cousin in-law, Deoji Vilaloid, and my Tita Charito celebrated their birthdays at Mama Rosa. I couldn't recall having a meal there and being disappointed.

Food's great! Sinigang na Corned Beef, Fish Roe Noodles with Shitake Mushrooms, Lechon Kawali with Kalabasa Sauce. I am eagerly awaiting the launch of their Sinigang Bar. A sure feast for the senses, complete with all the little nutty gadgets for the extra touches.

Tita Dina Laurel and her daughter, chef Golda, never cease to amaze me with their creativity. They represented the Philippines in the food expo in Japan where Filipino/Mama Rosa products were used as ingredients for sushi. They came up with concoctions such as: baong with mangga, crabfat, fishroe and dulong. Mama Rosa Timog, catering. 9251365.

### Photo shoot

Oct. 12—Went out on a photo shoot for my book. Among the places I visited was the newly opened Terry's Deli at The Podium. I was thoroughly impressed.

### KITCHEN RESCUE

Reggie Aspiras

by the whole set up and was especially dumbfounded by the biggest collection of dry pasta in all hues, cuts and flavors imaginable—from whole wheat spaghetti to squid ink tagliatelle to three- and five-color farfalle, mushroom- and truffle-flavored pasta to chocolate penne.

I saw Fromage Frais (fresh curd cheese from France) and Crème Fraîche, flown in from France weekly. Equally impressive are the choices of chorizos, jamones and quesos from Spain! A major discovery was the Schott D'Wa line of bordeaux, burgundy, roja, beatjolras, champagne and sherry glasses. The glasses are beautiful, reasonable and sturdy. Grace Ricasor, Terry's manager, banged the glass on the shelf's edge to prove it. Terry's is at the lower ground floor, The Podium, 6385725/26.

### Confectionery supplies

Oct. 13—Cake decorator Melissa Lim, a student of mine and owner of Cake World and Kitchen Works, is the person to call for cake decorating and confectionery supplies. She gave me the number of Claudine Manggassing, importer of fresh blue-

berries, raspberry, strawberries, figs, California plums, dates, persimmons, plums, royal pears, sultanas and pistachios roasted in lemon, in rock salt, saffron etc...

That same day I met with Rosie, the modista who worked with Boysie Villavicencio. If you

OCTOBER/D3

### Gourmet Classes with Chef Dennis Hipolito

#137 9th Street corner Balete Drive, New Manila, Quezon City. Aprt Chef Dennis Dever's Uni graduate at the Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, NY. Food Styles U. Owner of Jocanda Cakes? Took over classes from the famed Gennaro, Max Agnes Luchino in New Haven. Trained under the Instigator of World Pastry Cup Champion Ed Meag Hu of the Ritz Carlton Chicago (a Four Seasons Hotel); Dan Costa of Part Avenue Cafe Chicago; Cafe Suisse Billy Van Horstman; Fred Shultz-Deluxe Cakes, and comes replete in the Philippines.

**November 6, 2004: SINFUL CHRISTMAS GOODIES** (Perfect for Gift Giving) NEW CLASS Golden Canna Almond Cake, Chocolate and Cherry Fruscalle, Double Chocolate Mound Cookies, Rugelach Butter Bars, Cherry and Almond Leaf Cake P1600

**November 13, 2004: HOLIDAY GIFTS** (Irresistible Gifts for the Holidays) Buko Pie, Cassava Bibingka, Lemon Bars, Macapuno Streusel Bars, Undated Concord Cake P1600

**November 20, 2004: BARS, BARS, AND MORE BARS** (Easy Bars for Christmas Gift) NEW CLASS Caramel Pecan Bars on Oatmeal Butter Crust, Cherry Date and Walnut Bars, Chocolate and Fruit Granola Bars, Chocolate and Nut Bars, Triple Chocolate Cherry Brownies P1600

**November 27, 2004: CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAYS** (More Sinful Goodies for the Holidays) Brown Sugar and Maple Banana Bread, Crumb Cake Blueberry Squares, Fantastique Pull Out Bread, Lava Upside Down Cake, Mocha Java Pecan Pie P1600

\*CLASSES ARE: 1:00PM-4:30PM. (Limited Seats Available)

\*Classes include: Ingredients, Recipe Hand Outs, and Product Shares.

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## WHAT'S ON



Reach into your bag  
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A ton of treats  
for the young  
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October 30,

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## Sauce maryosep!



Sa halagang **P99** lang, umaapaw ang chocolate, caramel at strawberry sauce sa pagkatakam-takam na double sundae!

SELECTA









# Philippine Marketing Association AGORA CONFERENCE 2004

## Agora Conference speakers - winners all

**EXEMPLARY** professionals who have carved a name for themselves in the marketing industry form the core of speakers in this year's Agora Conference slated on Oct. 28 and 29 at the Shangri-La Hotel Makati.

The Philippine Marketing Association sought previous winners of its annual Agora Awards for marketing excellence as speakers. They are Karen de Asis who was last year's Agora Awardee for Outstanding Achievement in Marketing Education; Ferdinand dela Cruz, head of Wireless and Business Group of Globe Telecom, the marketing company that won in 2000; Luis Lorenzo, Jr. who was awarded an Agora for Outstanding Achievement in Export Marketing in 2000; Tom Bangus who was given the 1991 Agora Award for Marketing Achievement; and Bienvenido Niles, Jr., who was the recipient of the Asia-Pacific Agora Award for Marketing Excellence in 2002.

The bi-annual event which carries

the theme 'Marketing Renaissance in a Convergent Market' will focus on the principles and trends in marketing convergence, the business strategy of bringing together originally disparate products and services to become one.

According to Mylene Abiva-Sazon, director of the Agora Conference, the Agora Awards represent the pinnacle of marketing achievement. "It is given to an individual or organization only once, and this year we have the honor to learn straight from the past winners," she said.

On the first day, speakers will introduce market convergence, its principles, components and origin. They will also discuss 'Managing in a Convergent Market' with topics such as 'Strategic Options: Competing in a Convergent Market and the Financial Benefits of Succeeding in this Market' and 'Managing Convergent Markets: Marketing management tools used by successful companies in a convergent

market.'

Meanwhile, on the second day they will tackle how to prepare for a convergent market with topics like 'Convergent Market: Can Managers Anticipate?' and 'Convergent Market: Can Managers Shape It?'

This year's Agora Conference is supported by Amalgamated Specialties Corp., AZ Direct Marketing, Centrex Corp., Chowking's Food Corp., Country Bakers Insurance, Diva Learning Systems Inc., Globe Telecom, Goldilocks Bakeshop, Global Brands, GMA Marketing & Productions, Image One, LSF Printing, Microdata Systems Management, Motorola Communications Phils., On Louie, Philippine Daily Inquirer, RGMA, Seagull Glass Works Inc., Splash Corp., SM Corporation, Sterling Paper Products and Smart Communications.

For inquiries on the Agora Conference, contact the association secretariat at 634-4890; 634-5722 and 631-3286 or email pma@phulonline.com



5TH AGORA CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Seated, (from left) Mylene Abiva-Sazon, director; 5th Agora Conference; Jes Ortega, president, Phil. Marketing Association and Karen de Asis, overall chair, 5th Agora Conference. Standing (from left) Donna Canafranca, program; Ariel Roselo, staging and program chair; Gen. Gallardo, admin chair and Ting Samonte, exhibit chair.

## ISARIAPINIOY MEALS



**T**he Philippine Marketing Association celebrates its 50th year anniversary with the theme - Marketing Renaissance. French for re-birth, the Renaissance is our inspiration to take the lead in re-thinking and re-inventing Marketing for the next 50 years.

The 5th Agora Conference, entitled "Marketing Renaissance in a Convergent Market", will once again dare the industry to explore new ground. We thank the exclusive list of Agora Awardees who will share their insights on this exciting marketing phenomenon.

*Mylene Abiva-Sazon*  
JOSE ORTEGA  
2004 President  
Philippine Marketing Association



**A**s in years past, the Philippine Marketing Association has committed itself to the pursuit of marketing excellence. In mounting this year's Agora Conference with the theme "Marketing Renaissance in a Convergent Market," it has carried the torch and has lived to its promise.

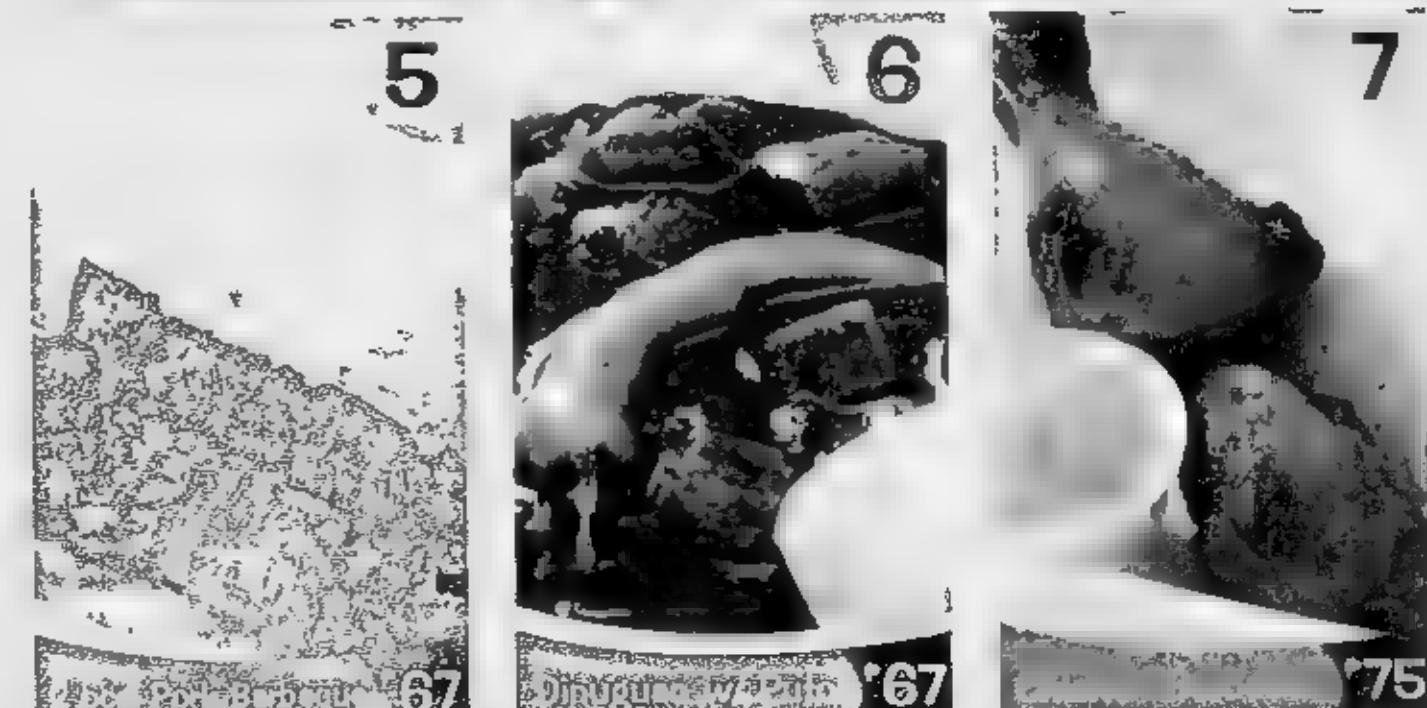
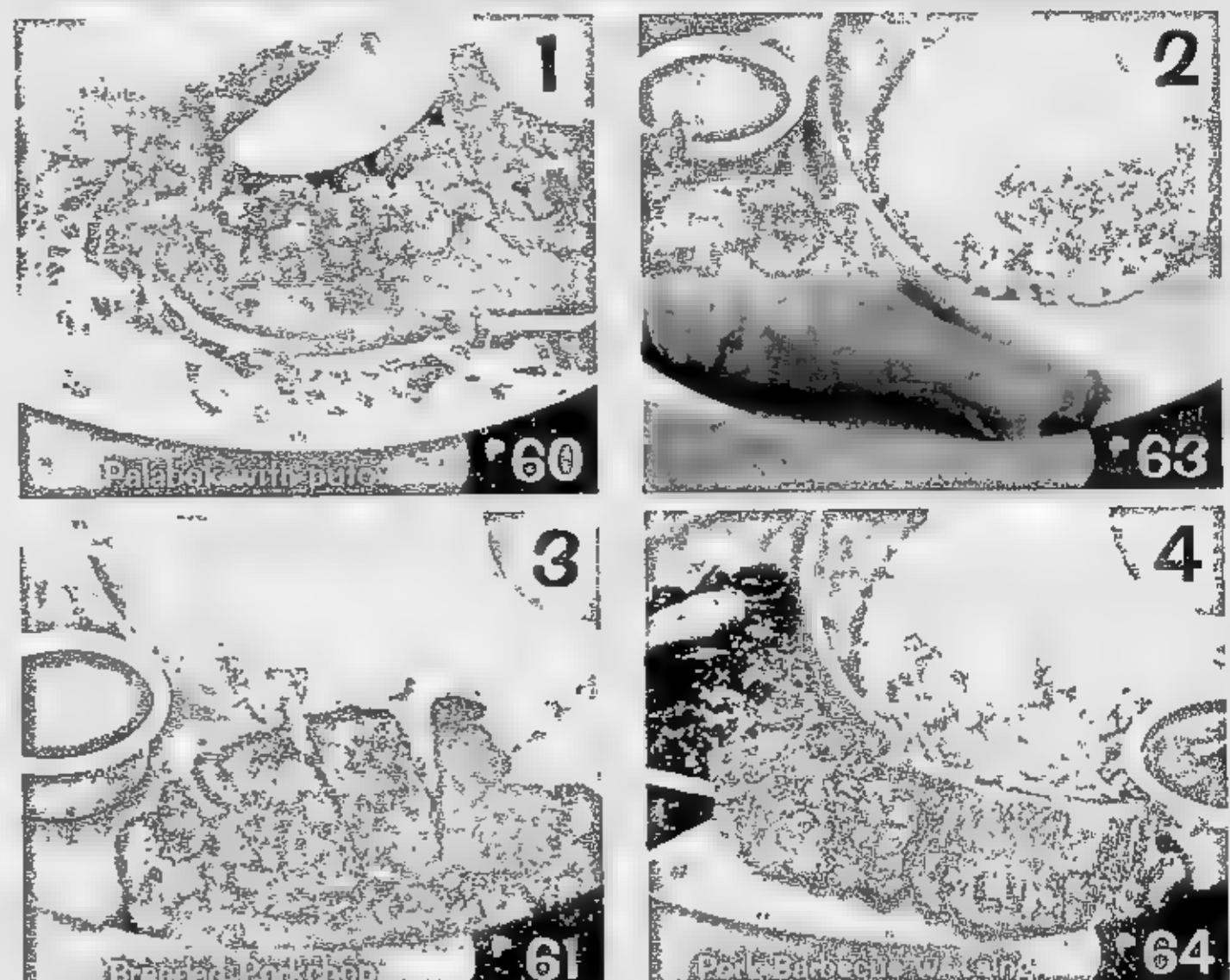
I count it a privilege that our speakers all belong to the elite group of Agora awardees. I am excited in the role they will take in equipping, edifying and encouraging the present and the future of marketing in the country.

I commend all the members whose faithful perseverance made this event a reality. The task I was given was never easy but it was well worth it with all your unwavering support.

For all Agora Conference participants, may the conference reward your sacrifices with wisdom. May your skills be sharpened and your spirits be refreshed as you learn many new things that will create a positive difference in the marketing arena.

This is for all of us who aspire marketing excellence!

*Mylene Abiva-Sazon*  
MYLENE ABIVA-SAZON  
Director in Charge  
5th Agora Awards



5th Agora Conference Committee

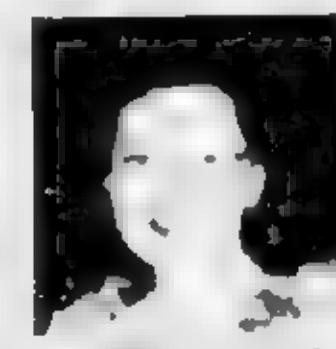
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Marketing Chair

# Marketing Renaissance in a Convergent Market

THE PHILIPPINE Marketing Association assembled the best minds in marketing including previous Agora awardees as speakers for the Agora Conference 2004 held at the Shangri-La Hotel Makati on Oct. 28 to 29.

The two-day conference with the theme 'Marketing Renaissance' focused on the principles and trends in market convergence, the business strategy of bringing together originally disparate products and services to become one.

It aimed to provide participants with basic understanding of the conditions that lead to a market that is classless and undifferentiated where the technology platform is homogeneous or highly accessible, standards are extremely high, and pricing is affordable to the mass market.

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Prices: One entry per form Grand Prize: Toyota Altis 1.8, M77

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1. Mail to: GPO Box 100, Intramuros 10th Anniversary Photo contest Building Don Chino Roces Avenue, Fort Bonifacio, Makati City

2. Drop in drop boxes located at the following: Macapagal Avenue, Makati City (near Makati City Hall)

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The conference focuses on the principles and trends in **MARKET CONVERGENCE**, a market where disjointed markets converge, boundaries that define and isolate need-specific markets erode, and cross elasticity no longer holds (Johannes Jennings).

It aims to provide participants with a basic understanding of the conditions that lead to a market that is classless and undifferentiated where the technology platform is homogenous or highly accessible, standards are extremely high, and pricing is affordable to the mass market.

The conference exposes the participants to various strategic options engaged by companies that were successful in managing or creating a **CONVERGENT MARKET** that is massive and growth-driven through case studies, lectures and discussions.

Philippine Marketing Association

Agora Conference 2004

Marketing Renaissance in a CONVERGENT MARKET

October 28-29, 2004

Shangri-La Hotel Makati

P R O G R A M O F A C T I V I T I E S

**October 28, 2004**

8:00 - 9:00 Registration

9:00 - 9:15 Opening Remarks

Mr. Jose Lito B. Ortega

President, Philippine Marketing Association

AM Sessions Module 1: Principles of Market Convergence

**Session 1**9:15 - 10:15 Introduction to Market Convergence  
(Principles and Components of Market Convergence)

Ms. Karen V. de Asis

Faculty and Marketing Director

DLSU Graduate School of Business

**Session 2**Market Convergence: Market Technology-Driven?  
10:15 - 11:30 (Roots or Origins of Convergent Markets)

Mr. Ferdinand M. De La Cruz

Head, Wireless Business Group, GLOBE Telecom

11:30 - 12:00 nn Synthesis/Open Forum

Dr. Leonardo R. Garcia, Jr.

Dean, Professional Continuing Education

DLSU, College of St. Benilde

12:00 nn - 1:00 pm LUNCH BREAK

PM Sessions Module 2: Managing in a Convergent Market

**Session 3**1:15 - 2:30 Strategic Options in a Convergent Market  
(Competing in a Convergent Market and the Financial Benefits of Succeeding in this Market)

Sec. Luis P. Lorenzo, Jr.

Presidential Adviser for Jobs Generation and Chairman of Land Bank and Quedancor

**Session 4**

3:00 - 4:15 Managing Convergent Markets

(Marketing Management Tools engaged by successful companies in a Convergent Market)

Mr. Tom C. Bangus, Jr.

President

AB Communications, Inc.

4:15 - 4:30 Synthesis/Open Forum

Ms. Luz T. Sophico

Assistant Professor, De La Salle University

**October 29, 2004**

AM Sessions Module 3: Preparing or Planning for a Convergent Market

**Session 5**9:00 - 10:15 Convergent Market: Can Managers Anticipate?  
(Predicting industries that are ripe for Convergence)

Mr. Buenaventura C. Niles, Jr.

President

AC Nielsen-Asia Pacific

**Session 6**10:15 - 11:30 Convergent Market: Can Managers shape it?  
(Influencing the shape and trend of Market Convergence)

Ambassador Amable R. Aguiuz, V

President

AMA Education System

11:30 - 11:45 Synthesis/Open Forum

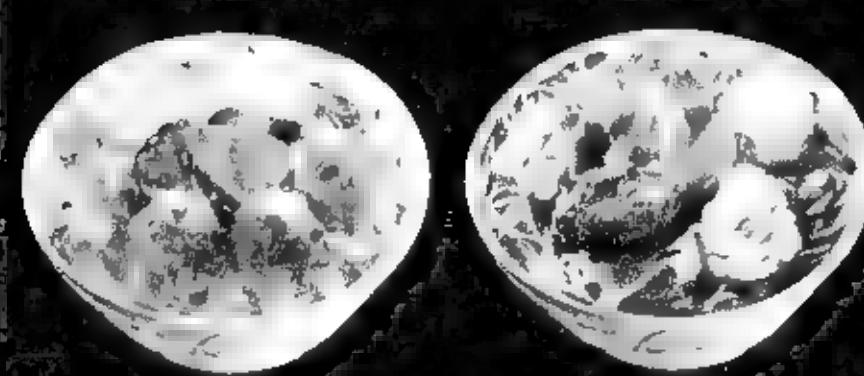
Ms. Mylene Abivn-Sazon

Chief Executive Officer

Delta Multi-Media Inc.

11:45 - 12:00 nn Closing/Raffle

Steaming hot noodles and congee—masarap pang midnight snack!  
Enjoy it at Chowking 24 hours.





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# ENTERTAINMENT Metro

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ABS-CBN SHOW. Hero Angeles (right) runs away with a dance number with fellow Star Circle Questors Joseph Bitangcol and Melissa Ricks.

PHOTOS BY JOSEPH AGCAOIL



FEMALE STAR of the Night Kristine Hermosa



JODI Santamaria and Luis Manzano, Best Talent Search Program Hosts, in a tie with Jolina Magdangal



BIG BOY: Best Show Biz Talk Show Host Boy Abunda

## GMA 7 snubbed Star Awards due to controversies

By Jocelyn Valle  
Contributor

**G**MA 7 did not participate in the staging of last Saturday's 18th Star Awards for Television because of the controversies that accompanied last year's proceedings.

This was according to the network's publicity head, Jayce Perlas, quoting an official statement. Perlas, however, did not elaborate on the issue.

"Although GMA management has decided not to participate in the activities of the award-giving body this year," said Perlas, quoting the network statement, "GMA Network is not closing its doors on the prospect of joining the PM-

PC Star Awards in the future."

He made it clear to INQUIRER Entertainment in a phone interview last Monday that management didn't prohibit its talents from attending the event.

Vicky Morales, who won best public affairs program host for another winner, "Wish Ko Lang," said she wasn't aware that there was a boycott.

"I wasn't able to go because I watched Rico J Puno's concert at the San Lazaro with my husband," said Vicky. "He's a big fan of Rico's. I was being a dutiful wife."

### Producers forewarned

Jolina Magdangal was performing in a private function in Tagaytay, according to his father Jun Magdangal, who's also her manager. The singer-actress won for best talent search show host,

along with Luis Manzano and Jodi Santamaria of Channel 2's "Star Circle Quest."

Jolina's father said that he already told the people behind Arttime Marketing, the TV producer of the Star Awards show, weeks ago that Jolina would be booked on the date of the awards night.

But he said that a week before the event, he got a call from PM-PC president Julie Bonifacio-Gaspar, who informed her about Jolina's nomination and participation in the awards night.

"So I asked Arttime what Jolina would do (in the show)," said Jolina's father in a phone interview. "I wanted to know if she would host or do a production number. That's what I always ask those (who want to get my daughter for shows). What is she going to do and with whom? But I was told that Jolina won't do anything."

**Same compound**

He said he called Arttime again three days before the awards night to make it clear that Jolina wouldn't go to the event, but he was told that she had to be in the show.

"But we had already committed Jolina's services to a private function in Tagaytay so there was no way that she could make it to the awards night," he pointed out.

### 6 out of 20

The Star Awards show was held at the Aliw Theater, inside the Star City compound in Pasay City. Of the 20 trophies that GMA 7

won last Saturday, only six were received on stage by the network's talents. Ogie Alcasid accepted his awards for best comedy actor and best musical variety show host.

His "Bubble Gang" co-star, Ara Mina, went with him to receive the trophy for best gag show. She also got a solo award for best single performance by an actress for her work on an episode of "Magpakanman."

Oyo Boy Sotto accepted the Star award for best comedy show, "Dadedidodu," on behalf of his father Vic, who heads the cast of the sitcom. Oyo Boy also escorted to the stage TAPE executive Marvin Choe Fagar, who received the citations for "Eat Bulaga" and "Ikaw sa Puso Ko" as best noontime variety show and daytime drama series, respectively.

TAPE's producer of the two shows that are both aired on Channel 7.

"Ikaw sa Puso Ko" was recently replaced by "Leyla," which stars Oyo Boy.



RAINIER Castillo's "I Love You Babe" album tour will bring him to the Ever Grand Central in Caloocan City on Sunday, Oct. 31. On Friday, Rainier's album tour takes him to SM Illoilo. The free show is from Universal Records, in

cooperation with GMA Artist. Rainier will be singing selections from his debut Universal Records album and will sign autographs after the show. Free color posters will be given to every buyer of the "I Love You Babe" album.

**SHOW TIME**

## NOW SHOWING

Babies and haunted houses

### The Grudge

BASED on a Japanese horror film and directed by the same director, the movie is about a haunted house in Tokyo. Real estate agents find it really hard to unload the property because of its cursed past ... until they find this gullible American couple who snap it up.

It has elicited some very colorful reactions from American audiences:

"A cerebral thriller—there's murder afoot, but we're not subjected to ghoulishly outlandish killings."

"It's not a bad movie; it's just not a very good one."

"Writer/director Takashi Shimizu uses his frightening malefactors to excellent effect."

"Is it better than 'Jeepers Creepers'? It's like saying having the flu is better than having a cold."

"Bill Pullman, for the love of all things holy, why did you sign up for this crap?"

### Superbabies: Baby Geniuses

TRY this first: "If you want a good movie for your kids to see, this is it. This film is with-



"SUPERBABIES: Baby Geniuses"

out doubt a new classic. It has a message: Babies rule. Everything about it is outstanding. The acting is good, the cinematography is awesome, the sound effects are the best since 'Star Wars.' The music, I would guess, is the best ever."

Now this: "Literally the worst movie ever. What could be funnier than racist babies?"

Who writes this stuff? If I were a child and watched this, I would be scared for life. What ever happened to good children's movies like 'Surf N' Turf'?"

Both passionate outpourings culled from the Net. You decide.

NOW SHOWING/2

# See'mall!

**AYALA CINEMAS** THX

Movies schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729-7777.

ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4	GB3 GREENBELT 3	ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU
1 THE GRUDGE	1 SUPERBABIES: BABY GENIUSES 2	1 STEAL WHITE CHICKS	5 SHARK TALE BEFORE SUNSET	1 LADDER 49
2 BEFORE SUNSET	2 THE GRUDGE	3 THE GRUDGE	6 THE GRUDGE	2 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
3 SUPERBABIES: BABY GENIUSES 2	4 CELLULAR	4 CELLULAR	7 CELLULAR	3 SECRET WINDOW
4 CELLULAR	3 CELLULAR	GB1	4 WHITE CHICKS	4 HEAVEN'S POND
5 WHITE CHICKS	4 WHITE CHICKS	1 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS	5 CELLULAR	5 THE PUNISHER

## At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
POOH HALLOWEEN PARTY October 28 to November 2, 2004	POOH HALLOWEEN PARTY October 27, 28 and 30, 2004	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER OF CEBU'S UNITED NATIONS CELEBRATION October 27, 2004

## ENTERTAINMENT LIVE!

GREENBELT 2	GREENBELT 8
GREENBELT 2: MUSIC STYLES FEATURING PIDO October 28, 7:00pm to 10:00pm	ALIVE AT FIVE! Live it up at Greenbelt's Cocktail Hour Enjoy special discounts from participating restaurants from 5pm to 8pm
REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents PINOCCHIO at REP's GLOBE THEATER - August 7 to December 12, 2004	Visit the New Ayala Museum located beside Greenbelt 4 along Makati Avenue. For inquiries please call 757-7117

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# movietime

CINEMA



## SUPERBABIES BABY GENIUSES 2

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I whattowatch I

1 BEFORE SUNSET

2 BABY GENIUSES

3 THE PODIUM

4 BABY GENIUSES 2

5 BEFORE SUNSET

6 CELLULAR

7 THE GRUDGE

8 SHARK TALE

9 RESIDENT EVIL

10 LADDER 49

11 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS

12 SUPERBABIES: BABY GENIUSES 2

13 SECRET WINDOW

14 THE PUNISHER

15 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS

16 THE GRUDGE

17 SECRET WINDOW

18 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS

19 THE GRUDGE

20 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS

21 THE GRUDGE

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23 THE GRUDGE

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27 THE GRUDGE

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# ENTERTAINMENT Metro

Text us your feedback: Inquirer ent name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)



**NOT SHOCKING.** The Ricky Lee play, directed by Joel Lamangan, may be shocking to some but not to Armida Siguion-Reyna and other celebrities who have seen it.

## 'All About Men' repeat tonight

THE CONTROVERSIAL play, "All About Men ... Penis Talks," will have a repeat tonight at 8 p.m. at the Music Museum.

The play, written by Ricky Lee and directed by Joel Lamangan, had played before SRO audiences on Oct. 15 and 16.

"It didn't offend me," said actress and producer Armida Siguion-Reyna, who was in the audience on one of the first two nights, "in the same way that I was not offended by the much touted and internationally acclaimed "Vagina Monologues." "Penis Talks" is shocking to some, but it definitely is not pornography. I enjoyed the show."

Among the celebrities who have watched "Penis Talks" are Kris Aquino, Boy Abunda, Ben Chan of Bench, Butch Francisco, Cristy Fermin, Elizabeth Oropesa, Chanda Romero, Bibeth Orteza, Calitos Siguion-Reyna, June Rufino, Jeffrey Jerutan, Roselle Monteverde of Regal Films, Jean Garcia, Gardo Versoza, Omening Bondoc, Iza Calzado, Clara Sotto, and many others.

The play will be performed in other parts of

the country, starting with Cebu and Davao in November.

It stars Christian Vasquez, Jeffrey Hidalgo, Carlo Maceda, Paolo Paraiso, William Thio, Russel Simon, Ricel Chan, Luis Alandy, Douglas Robinson, Angelu de Leon and Jenine Desiderio.

Also in the cast are models Jadel Lee, Gerard Lee, Thomas Wallworth, Rico Bryan Ongcoy, Christian Sermiento and Marlon Viado.

A joint production of DMV Entertainment Inc. and Arnold Vegafría of ALV Events International, "All About Men ... Penis Talks" tries to debunk myths about the Filipino male.

Sponsors are Bench Body, Information Gateway, Globe, Propaganda, Crystal Clear Purified Drinking Water, NU 107 and People's Journal.

For inquiries, call Music Museum, 721-0635 or 721-6726; DMV Entertainment, 374-1361 or 415-037; Ticketworld, 891-5610, or visit [www.penistalkstheplay.com](http://www.penistalkstheplay.com).

## Miss Determination

By Armin Adina

BINIBINING Pilipinas Margaret Ann "Maan" Bayot was still backstage and 14 fellow Miss International contestants had already been called out for the top 15 lineup. This was it, she thought, her greatest fear had come true. She was going home empty-handed and her countrymen would be so disappointed.

Then suddenly she heard, "Miss Philippines, you're in!" Thumbs-up signs were flashed in her direction. "I was surprised, but I was also happy," she said of her commendable finish. Miss International is one of the world's three most prestigious beauty pageants—the other two being Miss Universe and Miss World. She had promised folks back home that she was going to do her best.

The Philippines had failed to make the cut for five years after five consecutive semi-finals slots starting with Alma Concepcion in 1994. But it seemed luck was on Maan's side.

Three previous Miss International title holders had been Filipinas—Gemma Cruz in 1964, Aurora Pijuan in 1970 and Melanie Marquez in 1979. This year, Colombia's Yeimi Paola Vargas, a statuesque black model, bested 57 women from around the world. The Latin beauty is also the first black winner in the pageant's 44-year history. She was crowned World Coffee Queen in Houston, Texas in July.

It was also the first time that the pageant was held in another country, China. It had been based in Japan since 1968. The change of venue would have taken place last year, but for the outbreak of SARS. The year before that, the pageant was almost brought to Hawaii.

### Best speech

"She deserved it," Maan said of Yeimi's victory. They first met last summer in Colombia, where she underwent training. Most of the other contestants were likewise pleased with the results, Maan added. But she recalled that at least two of them—Miss Canada (Adelyn Cupino, of Filipino descent) and Miss Ethiopia—thought she was going to win.

"There wasn't much applause when I was called out to deliver my cultural speech," Maan said. "But when I finished, there was thunderous applause in the whole stadium. Backstage, the girls said it was the best speech, and that I would surely be crowned that night."

While the winners were being announced, in fact, some fellow contestants surrounded her, including Yeimi, who kissed her on the forehead and said, "Mabuhay!" But Miss Philippines was not called among the Top 3. Still, Maan said, she was "happy."

It was a tough competition. Two days upon arriving in Tokyo, where preliminary activities were held, Maan almost gave up. So many of the girls were taller and prettier, she thought. But she resolved to fight it out till the end.

Determination is indeed one of Maan's best assets. Not to mention that she has an extensive pageant experience. She placed third in the 2002 Miss Internet WWW pageant in Istanbul, Turkey, and was proclaimed Virrem in the Miss Maja Mundia pageant in Sucre, Colombia last April.

### Just have fun

All these tucked under her belt, Maan thought she should just be herself and enjoy the competition. Sure enough, international news agencies caught her in photographs having fun with fellow candidates. Once in China,



THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE greeted Maan Bayot's "cultural" speech  
EDWIN SACAMAS

she immediately attracted the attention of the media and the general public.

"I became close to Miss China, Miss Hong Kong and, of course, Miss Canada," said Maan. "Actually, they were all nice to me." There was one exception, though—Miss USA Amy Lynne Holbrook. "I don't know why, but most of the girls openly declared their dislike of her. Some girls even threatened to walk out if she won."

Thankfully, Amy Lynne just finished second; there was no need to stage a protest.

Now that Maan is back in the country, she will be busy training fellow Bb. Pilipinas winner Ma. Karla Bautista, who will represent the country in the Miss World pageant in Sanya, China this December. Along

with Bb. Pilipinas-Universe Maricar Balagtas, who was crowned Miss Globe 2001 in Turkey, Maan will orient Karla on pageant goings-on.

When Karla leaves next month, Maan can finally take a much-needed break. She will turn over her title in February next year.

## 'SLN' creator wins comedy prize

WASHINGTON—Canadian-born Lorne Michaels, who launched "Saturday Night Live" and generations of stars who brought their irreverent talent to his stage, picked up one of America's top comedy honors, the 2004 Mark Twain Prize at the Kennedy Center.

Cast members old and new joined in honoring Michaels, 59, a nine-time Emmy winner whose show transformed Saturday night television 30 years ago.

"For the last 30 years, I've had the coolest job in New York City," Michaels remarked after receiving his award at the end of the evening Monday.

"It is the primary satirical voice of the country," said 1970s veteran Dan Aykroyd, one of many who went on to successful film careers after stints

on "Saturday Night Live." Shuffling on the stage and doing a "Blues Brothers" dance, Aykroyd told the audience that the test of success was always trying to make Michaels break out laughing. "We seek approval of this man."

Added current cast member Amy Poehler: "He's a fair and loyal and funny boss. He lets people succeed and fail on their own."

A variety of the show's hosts came to the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, too. Recalling his Saturday night as host in the 2000 campaign, Arizona Sen. John McCain said: "It's the only time I ever impressed my teenage children."

Staying true to Saturday Night Live form, current and former cast members and staff joined Michaels on

stage at the end of the show and hugged each other.

Michaels moved to Los Angeles from Toronto in 1968 to work as a writer for NBC's "Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In." Seven years later he shifted to New York to begin "Saturday Night Live." Among those featured in the cast in its three decades are John Goodman, Bill Murray, Gilda Radner, Eddie Murphy, Dana Carvey, Chris Rock and Will Ferrell. Al Franken was a performer and writer for the show.

The show, which debuted on Oct. 11, 1975, has won 18 Emmy Awards and been nominated for more than 80. It continues to get the highest ratings of any late-night television program.

Michaels is also executive producer of "Late Night with Conan O'Brien." AP

**M M T A**  
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

**MOVIE GUIDE**

NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX	FILINVEST	EASTWOOD CINEMAS
PREMIERE THEATRE	FESTIVAL CINEMA	(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City, E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
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2pm SHARK TAILE	2pm LADDER 49 WHITE CHICKS	3pm SHARK TAILE
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4pm WHITE CHICKS	5pm BABY GENIUSES 2	THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT
5pm BEFORE SUNSET	6pm BABY GENIUSES 2	BRIDGE
6pm GHOST	7pm RESIDENT EVIL	8pm RESIDENT EVIL
7pm BABY GENIUSES 2	8pm THE DOLL MASTER	9pm THE DOLL MASTER
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SPECIAL NEWS SECTION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2000

# Memories

"Memory is a way of holding onto the persons you love, the person you are,  
the love ones you never want to lose."

Let me sleep, for my soul is intoxicated with love and  
Let me rest, for my spirit has  
had its bounty of days and nights;  
Light the candles and burn the incense around my bed, and  
Scatter leaves of jasmine and roses over my body;  
Embalm my hair with frankincense and  
sprinkle my feet with perfume,  
And read what the hand of Death  
has written on my forehead.

Let me rest in the arms of Slumber,  
for my open eyes are tired;  
Let the silver-stringed lyre quiver and  
soothe my spirit;  
Weave from the harp and  
lute a veil around my withering heart.

Sing of the past as you behold the dawn  
of hope in my eyes, for  
Its magic meaning is a soft bed upon  
which my heart rests.

Dry your tears, my friends, and  
raise your heads as the flowers;  
Raise their crowns to greet the dawn.  
Look at the bride of Death  
standing like a column of light  
Between my bed and the infinite;  
Hold your breath and listen with me  
to the beckoning rustle of  
Her white wings.

Come close and bid me farewell;  
touch my eyes with smiling lips.  
Let the children grasp my hands  
with soft and rosy fingers;  
Let the ages place their veined hands  
upon my head and bless me;  
Let the virgins come close and  
see the shadow of God in my eyes,  
And hear the echo of His will  
racing with my breath.

Khalil Gibran, *The Calling*

# INQUIRER

C. L. A. S. S. L. E. L. E. D. S.

# Memories

A special supplement on the death care industry

SPECIAL NEWSLETTER SUPPLEMENT

# Memories

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Khalil Gibran, "The Calling"

## PRUDENTIALIFE MEMORIAL SERVICES GROUP

# Gift of everlasting life

By Marlet Salazar

**PREPARING** for the future does not only mean having a fat bank account for your retirement. For many people, they begin to realize the importance of planning for their eventual passing. This is not done only for oneself but also to let the ones left behind free from worries.

Prudentialife Memorial Services Group with all its member companies (Prudentialife Life Plan, Inc., La Funeraria Paz, Inc., La Funeraria Paz Sucat, Inc., Tarlac Memorial Park, Inc., Iloilo Memorial Park, Inc. and Afronsa Philippines, Inc.) allows you to plan for the future without hassle.

Their products and services cover most of your needs in these times.

Prudentialife Life Plan protects your family from worry at the time of need, it lets you prepare for a future that is secure and comfortable. Prudentialife continues to be the No. 1 life plan company in the pre-need industry with its sales force working hard to provide innovative life and cremation plans.

Prudentialife introduced the Prudentialife Flexi Plan. It is a fixed value life plan which guarantees the availability of funds and professional administration of memorial

services for the planholder at the time of need with value-added benefits such as easy and affordable terms, and the moneyback guarantee and flexible payment scheme.

Prudentialife also has its own Cremation Plan. A pre-need product which provides cremation services with various features such as Family Assistance Fund Benefit, Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit among others.

La Funeraria Paz, the nation's pioneers in memorial services, now has a total of 51 chapels in its branches in Araneta, Recto, and Baguio. Paz also offers affordable and flexible me-

morial service packages. It includes choices of local or imported caskets from wood to bronze, and affordable cremation services and urns.

Its new crematory units offer 24-hour state-of-the-art cremation services.

Paz also offers Professional Counseling conducted by its trained sales and counseling staff who are on call 24 hours a day. They have high level of professionalism and expertise that enables them to give sound advice to bereaved families regarding the right approach in funeral services.

One phone call will prompt our attendants to attend to our clients' needs.

## MANILA MEMORIAL PARK

# Leading the way

By Joel V. Nigos

FOR over 40 years now, the Manila Memorial Park has been leading the way in the eternal or death care industry. Envisioned to provide a final resting place which offers tranquility and beauty both for the deceased loved ones and their families, the memorial park aims to address the real problems when death comes in the family. These problems, found in public cemeteries, such as congestion, lack of order, missing graves and stolen mementos or even remains, not to mention maintenance or the lack of it, often does not help grieving families when they need it most. Rather than bring peace of mind to them, these just compound their woes.

The idea of a memorial park was then conceptualized by a group of Filipino businessmen. Though it was alien to Filipinos then, the public quickly accepted it because of the promise that it offered.

MMP now has an aggregate area of over 400 hectares found in its six beautifully landscaped memorial parks—in Sucat,

Parañaque; Holy Cross, Novilches; Dasmariñas, Cavite; Plaridel, Bulacan; Lilo-an, Cebu, and; Ma-a, Davao City. All these six parks share a common vision of providing a perfect place for reflection and remembrance.

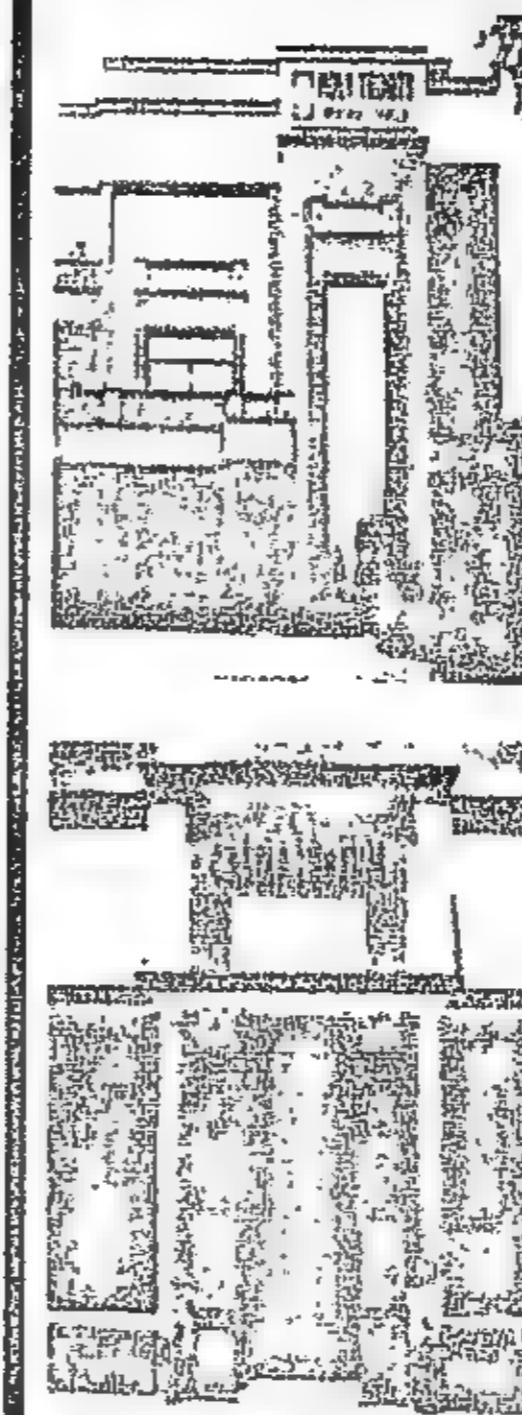
In 1985, MMP pioneered cremation in the country with its very first modern crematory. It now has two crematory chambers on call 24 hours a day.

MMP today introduces another innovation to continue to service its ever-changing customers' needs—the Memorials Plus.

Memorials Plus is a service package which takes care little details that need to be arranged when a loved one passes away. Little details which otherwise would take up every family member's precious time. The package includes flower arrangements, music (musicians, bands, choir, etc.), catering services, balloons and a horse-drawn carriage. Memorials Plus takes care all of these, so the family can have more time with family and friends, in this life's most delicate moments.

ng buksan ang  
liwanag patungo  
sa kapayapaan ng  
ating mga mahal  
sa buhay.

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Ang Pambansang Kandila



## HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPEL

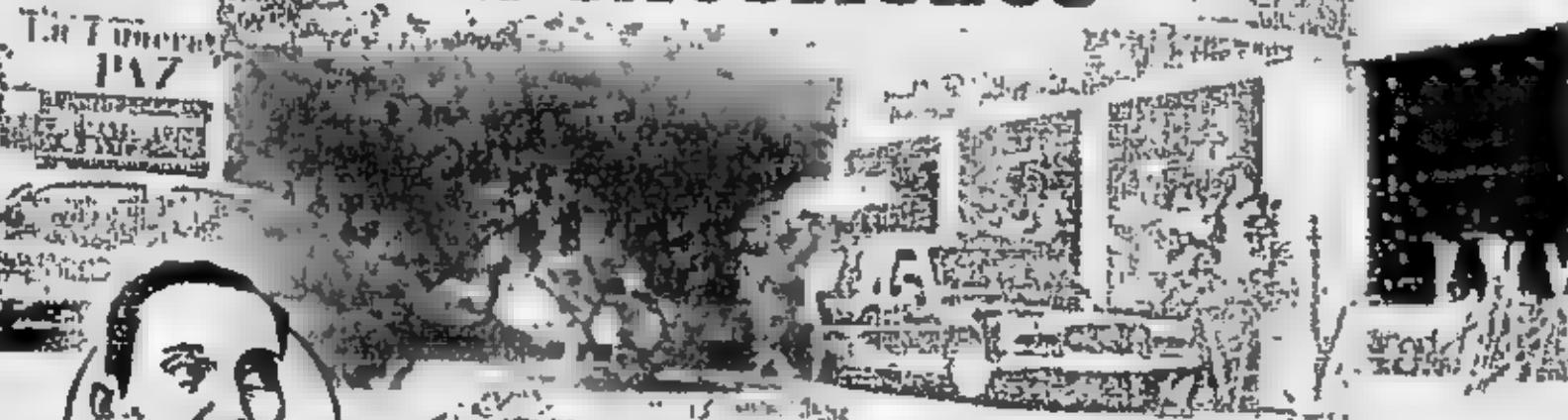
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PAZ



La Funeraria Paz has established a tradition of dignified and excellent service. Distinguished personages Apolinario Mabini and Melchora Aquino were among the first to whom Paz rendered memorial services.

One hundred four years ago, our nation witnessed the realization of a life-long vision and dream. The vision was to serve God and mankind by creating the most meaningful path onto God's promise of everlasting life. The dream was La Funeraria Paz.

It began with one small chapel built at the corner of Calle paz (now C.M. Recto) and Calle Almanza (now Tomas Mejia St.), a place where families and friends could pay their last respects to their departed loved ones.

Since then, La Funeraria Paz has established a tradition of dignified and excellent service. Today as tradition lives on, it has progressed with 51 chapels: 28 in Araneta, 16 in Recto and 7 in Baguio. As witness to numerous events, having stood the ravages of the Second World War, Paz has remained strong and resilient through the years. La Funeraria Paz continues to set its sights to another century of providing excellent and dignified memorial services.



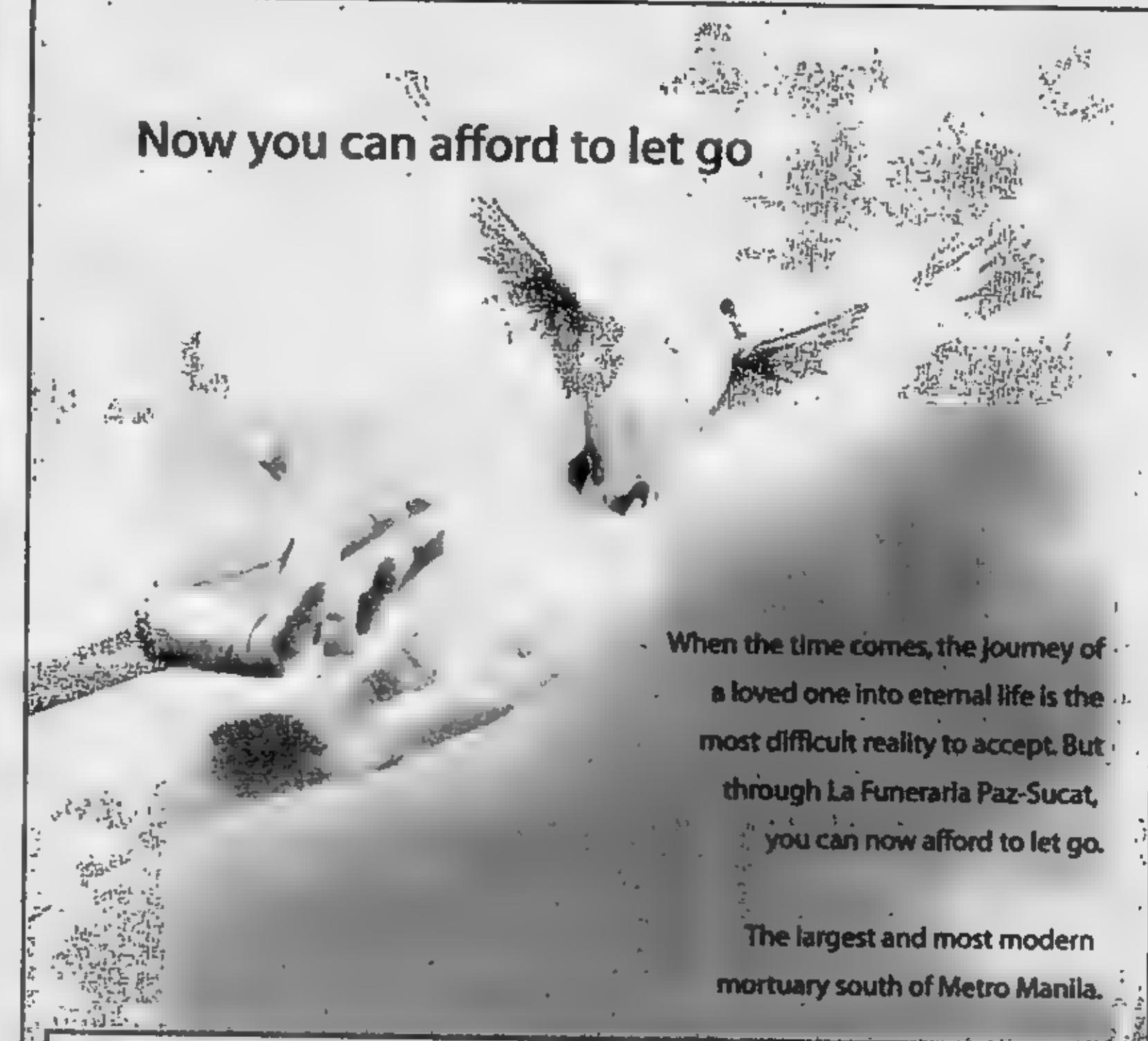
## LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.

141G Araneta Avenue cor. Kalayaan Street, Quezon City  
Tel. 749-5805 to 11 / 712-3001 / 743-6502 / 743-6503 / 743-6508  
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Tel. 771-0031 to 33 Fax: 773-2827  
Email: recto@funerariapaz.com

79 Naguilian Road Baguio City  
Tel. 0744-443-3337 Fax: 0744-442-3117  
Email: baguio@funerariapaz.com

## Now you can afford to let go



When the time comes, the journey of a loved one into eternal life is the most difficult reality to accept. But through La Funeraria Paz-Sucat, you can now afford to let go.

The largest and most modern mortuary south of Metro Manila.



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Dr. A. Santos Avenue (formerly Sucat Road) Sucat, Parañaque City  
Tel. Nos. 825-9947; 825-9930, 825-9949 to 52; Telefax: 820-1592



*"Matuto kang maging maayos  
at di habang buhay nandito ako  
para alagaan ka."*

Ang gusto mo lang namang sabihin, lagi kang nag-aalala tungkol sa kanya. Bahagi na ng iyong pagmamahal ang siguraduhing panatag ang loob ng iyong pamilya.

At kung gaano mo sllang kamahal, ganoon mo ring malpagkakatiwala ang iyong life plan sa Prudentialife Life Plan, mas matitiyak mong maaasikaso ang lahat - nang slya'y wala nang lilsip pa kahit wala ka na.

Ang Prudentialife ay may mga produkto at services na babagay sa iyong mga pangangallangan. May higit na 11 billion na trust fund, 30,000 sales associates at 1,000 personnel. Bisitahin ang aming mga branches nationwide. Makakasiguro ka na matatag at maayos ang knabukasan ng iyong pamilya sa Prudentialife.

## Prudentialife Life Plan



### Prudentialife Plans, Inc.

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## HOLY GARDENS MEMORIAL PARK Setting the standards in Interment Service



### Memorable Interment Service

The Holy Gardens Group started the unique interment ceremonies which include the following: audio-visual tribute for the loved one, convoy signs and stickers, Range Rover, BMW or Mercedes Benz family service, ceremonies with music, flowers, balloons, free merienda, free thank you cards, and free colored obituaries with thumbnail pictures. The most recent improvement in the interment service is the Interment Motif.

### Leader in the Memorial Park Business

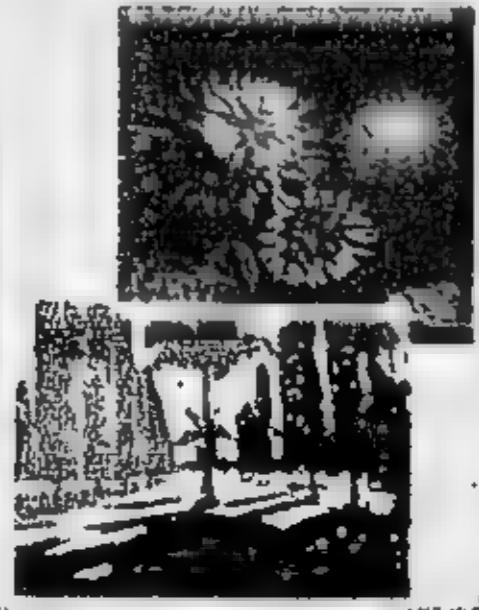
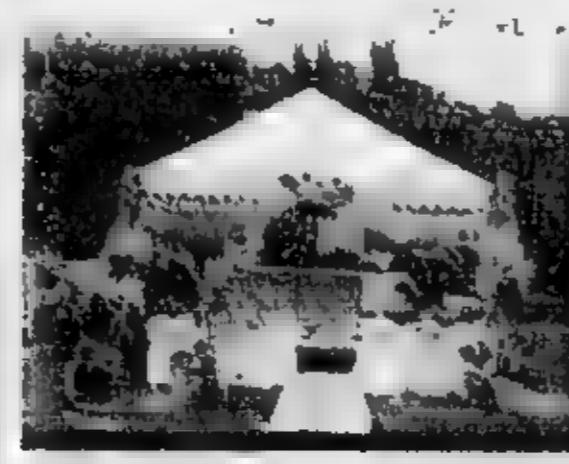
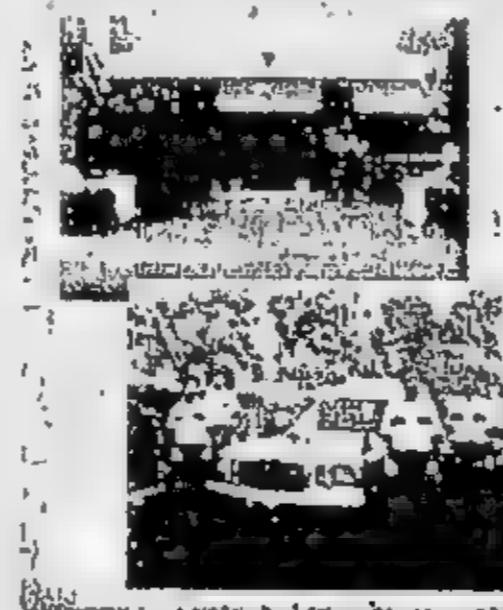
Holy Gardens has been the first to offer an interactive website where customers can take a virtual tour of the memorial park, send e-condolences, offer e-masses, view obituaries, keep track of their payments, and inquire in real-time. HGMP also offers franchising of branches and discounting of memorial park receivables, and instant loan to CO holders.

### Most number of Memorial Parks Nationwide

Holy Gardens now has 10 memorial parks spread all over the country - from San Fernando, La Union in Northern Luzon, to Polomolok, South Cotabato in Mindanao.

### Amazing All Saints' Day Celebration

An eventful celebration with games, contests, music, and a spectacular fireworks display in all 10 memorial park branches.



[www.holygardens.com](http://www.holygardens.com)  
Tel No. 651-1711 to 15

## THE HERITAGE PARK

# The best place for remembrance on earth

By Raquel P. Gomez

The Heritage Park is a multiuse memorial park complex that has modern interment facilities and services, a refreshing park, esthetic landmarks, trees, lagoon and gardens

THE sad, heavy and clinical atmosphere associated with mortuary and crematory facilities is now a thing of the past.

The Heritage Park Mortuary and Crematory in Fort Bonifacio is a new 3,200 square meter facility possesses harmonious design, architecture and interiors, which convey the atmosphere of serenity and warmth, a much-needed comfort for the family who lost a loved one.

There are ten air-conditioned viewing chapels, each can be joined with another to form a bigger chapel to accommodate more people. The chapel is spacious. The family room offers amenities such as TV, ref., sofa

and cushions.

Outside the facility is a wide patio with chairs and tables and a nearby coffeeshop. Beyond is a landscaped garden with a small pond and a children's playground.

### A welcome to stay

The mortuary and crematory is designed in such a way to somehow make the family's stay an "enjoyable" one, according to Jack Kidwiler, chairman and CEO of Rosehills Memorial Management (Phils.) Inc, the company running The Heritage Park.

"It's never fun or an enjoyable experience when a family member passes away," said Kidwiler. "But we try to make the experience as less

painful as possible."

With the opening of the Mortuary and Crematorium, the Heritage Park is now a complete "one-stop shop" for all funeral or interment needs.

### A Perpetual Care Park

At the Heritage Park, a family's interment's needs are fully taken care of. Counselors assist a family in private with regard to the final arrangements, from date and location of service, selection of products and interment services.

The family can choose the flowers, cards, casket or urn, tomb labels, food for the guests during the wake, procession procedure either by horse-drawn carriage or car, and the interment spot inside the park's sprawling green grounds.

Even after the interment is done, the family need not worry about the upkeep and maintenance of the memorial lot. The Heritage Park is the

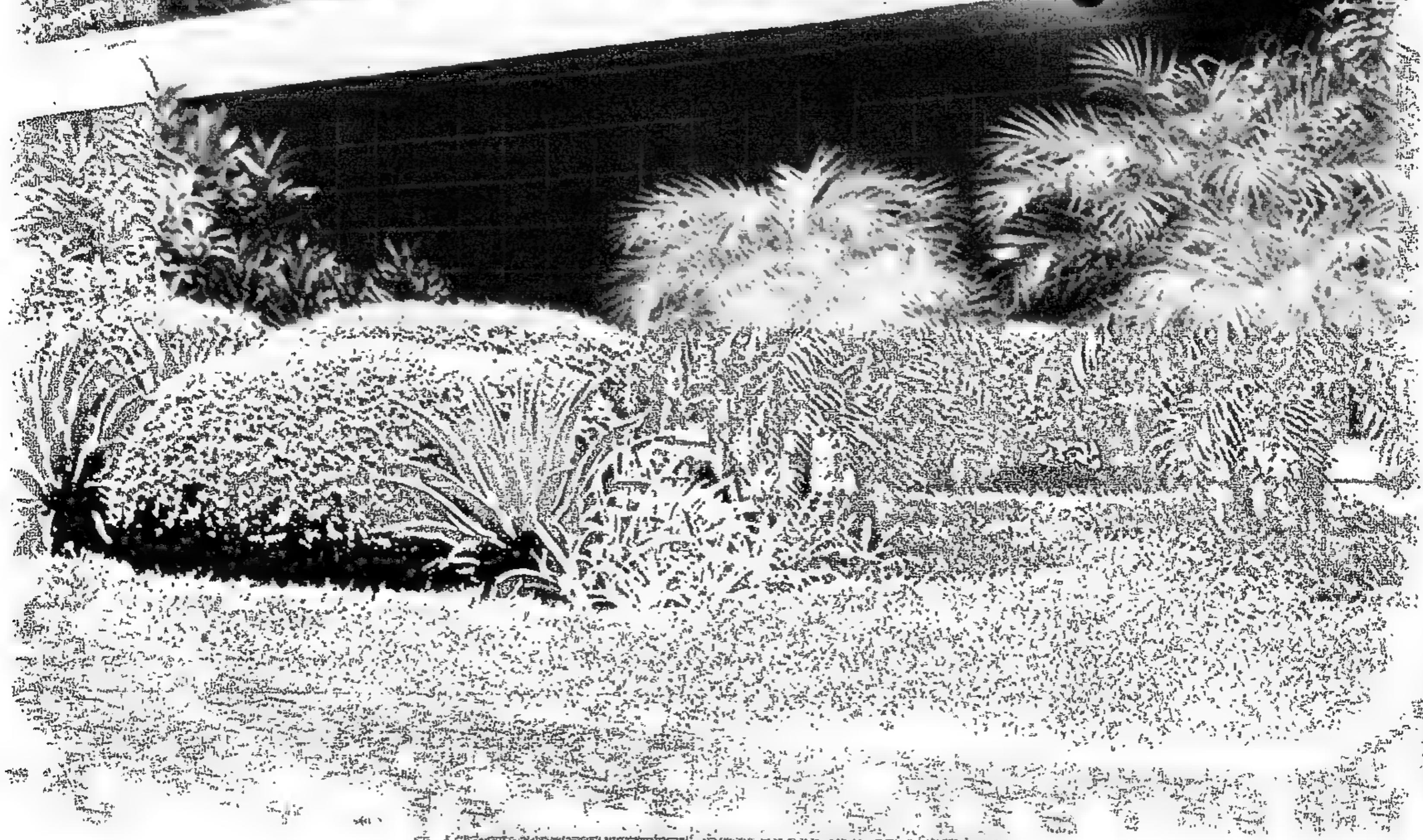
only memorial park in the country with a Perpetual Care Fund that assures the long-term maintenance, upkeep, care and continued enhancement of the park.

### Modern

Occupying a 76-ha of land along the C-5 and Bayani Road inside Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, The Heritage Park is a master-planned, high-value multiuse memorial park complex that has modern interment facilities and services. It has esthetic landmarks and structures such as lagoon for fishing. Trees abound as well as decorative lampposts on the green lawns. The place is truly refreshing for a memorial park that people go here to jog in the mornings.

The Heritage Park is operated and managed by Rosehills Memorial Management Inc., a local affiliate of a leading US-based cemetery and mortuary company.

# The **Columbary**



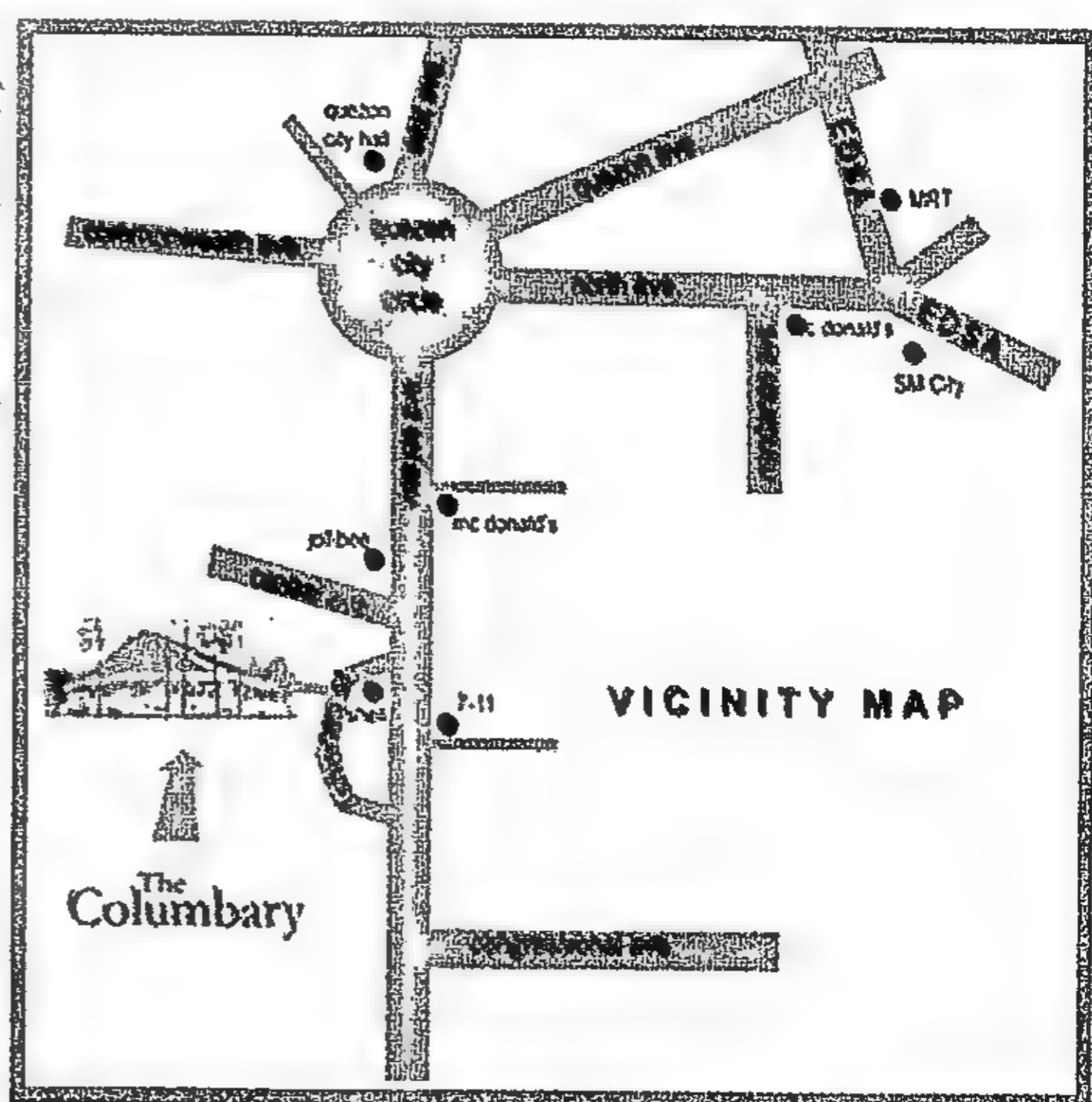
**The Columbary is a modern-day depository  
for the cremated remains  
of our departed loved one.**

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meant for peaceful remembrance and quiet prayer.  
A meaningful investment  
that goes beyond financial rewards.**

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Fisheries St., Visayas Ave., Quezon City.

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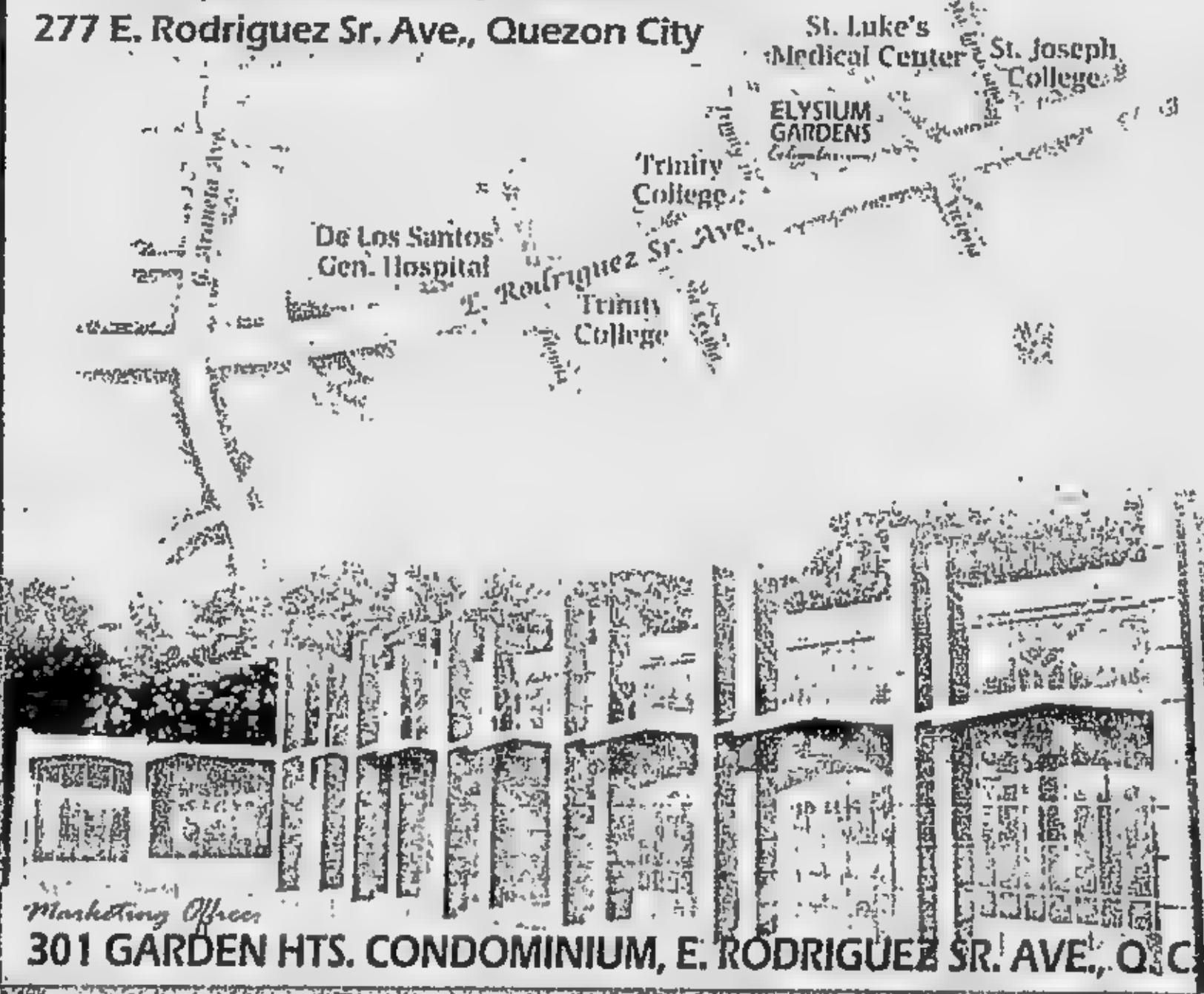
**425.1508-09, 426.6965-66**



# ELYSIUM GARDENS

## Columbarium

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301 GARDEN HTS. CONDOMINIUM, E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVE., Q.C.

723-6494 / 723-7651 / 722-8496 / 723-6335

## Elysium Gardens

### A modern classical design columbarium

TO SATISFY the growing demand of memorials that houses our dearly departed, **Elysium Gardens Columbarium** offers a better alternative by being conveniently located within the New Manila area with ample parking spaces, cafes and restaurants just nearby and free maintenance for those hassle free visitation.

**Elysium Gardens Columbarium**, a modern classical design columbarium which is conveniently located at 277 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Quezon City, within the Cathedral Heights compound bounded by Trinity College and St. Luke's Medical Center. Construction is on its full swing and is ahead of schedule in its accomplishment.

The Columbarium will have a **Solarium Building** which will feature indoor vaults/ crypts where the natural sunlight passes through its glass walls, and a **Memorial Plaza** that will accommodate outdoor vaults where the serene garden type setting is in harmony with nature and an ecumenical chapel that can be used in memorial services.

This project is jointly undertaken by **BGT Infra & Development Corp. and The Cathedral of St. Mary and St. John.**

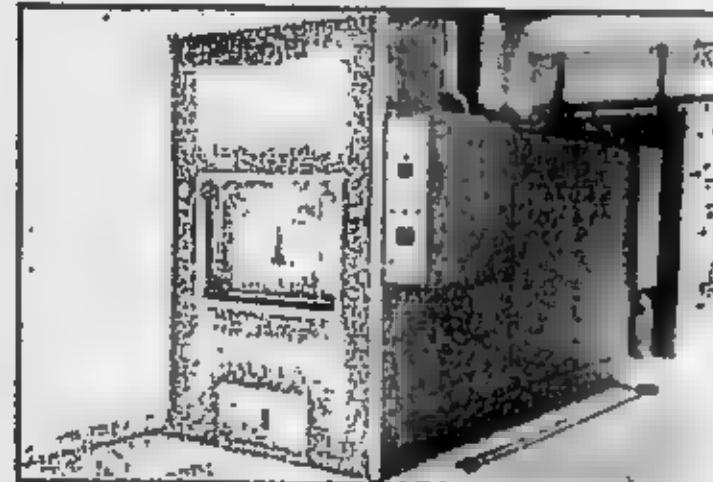
For more inquiries call 723-6494 / 723-6335.

Congratulations on your 36th year of steadfast service to the planholder

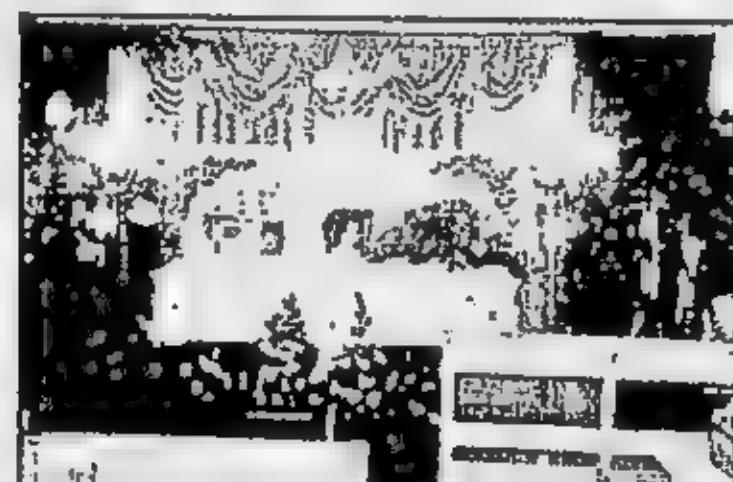


Loyola Memorial Park  
Chapels & Crematory Services, Inc.

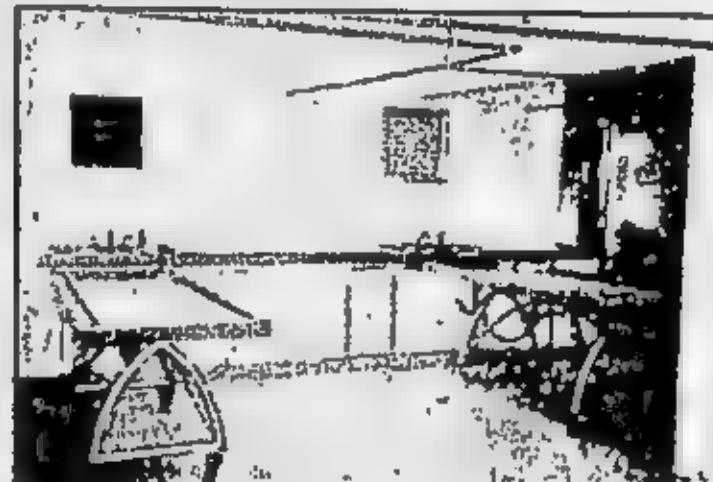
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Cremation Service



Viewing Room



Embalming Room



Chapels

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to suit the  
family's budget

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Marikina City

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941-3753  
941-3758  
Fax: 941-3607

## Hearse Rental Corporation

### A proven name in funeral transportation

HRC-Hearse Rental Corp is a corporation innitally engaged in renting,loan and lease of tractors,trailers, and other types of motor vehicled and to provide suitable and adequate repairs and maintenance services including the washing,,cleaning, furnishing of oils and lubricant necessary for the operation of all vehicles. It is now engaged in providing full memorial services to clients and provides transportation needs of the Loyola Memorial Chapels, Inc. Hearse Rental Corp has its main office at Loyola Memorial Park, Administration Bldg., A. Bonifacio Avenue, Brgy Tanong, Marikina City. Hearse Rental Corp has a fleet of (15) hearses, two (2) flower cars and (5)ambulances and is proud in providing the funeral transportation requirements of some of the biggest funeral homes in the industry and dozens of the meduim and low end funeral homes all over the metropolis and nearby provinces. A track record that is enviable considering that it is only on its fifth year of existence.

*"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."*

John 3:16

# Manila Memorial Park

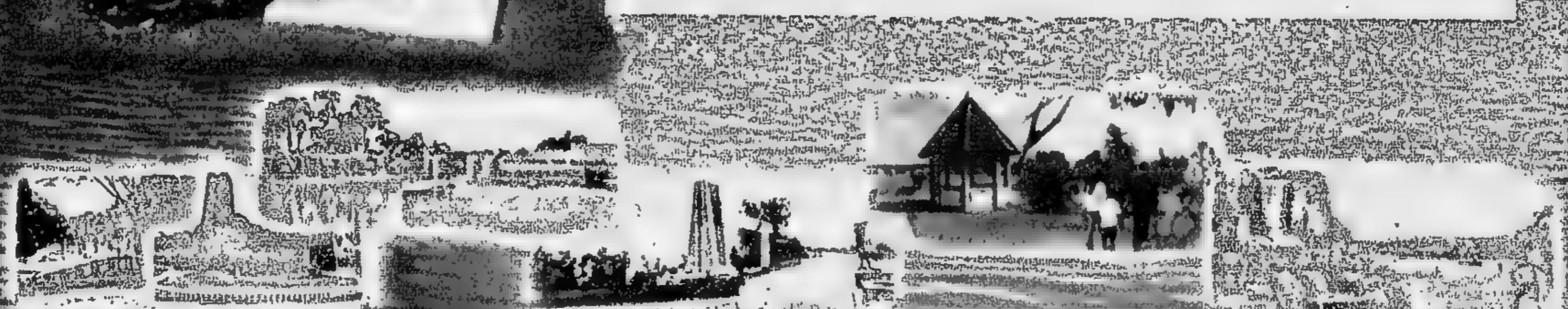
*Leading the Way.*

## *An Invitation*

*Manila Memorial Park invites you and your family to come over and visit your dearly departed and celebrate their precious memories, in prayer and fond recollection.*

*May we suggest you come early to avoid congestion.*

Our gates will open 24 hours  
beginning October 30  
up to November 2.



**SUCAT - HOLY CROSS - DASMARINAS - BULACAN - CEBU - DAVAO**

MMP Home Office (632) 815 1875 or 90 ; (632) 893 8374 to 77

CEBU CITY (032) 255 7230 to 31 (032) 255 7233 to 35 DAVAO CITY (082) 225 0091 to 92

# Memories

## OUR STORY:

**Cosmopolitan Funeral Homes** has been in the field of deathcare for the past 53 years. Pioneer by Mr. Renato Dychangco Sr., the first branch opened in Cebu in 1951 in a time when horse carriage, then known as "kalesas", were still in use.

Today, Cosmopolitan Memorial Chapels has grown into a full-service, state-of-the-art funeral home and memorial service company that focuses on premium products, facilities and quality customer service and value.

The company has come a long way since the 1950's. We stand tall on our experience and our track record of quality performance, innovation and service through the years.

**1951 - Junquera, Cebu City**  
Cosmopolitan Memorial Chapels opened its first branch in the heart of downtown Cebu. The business address is located at 16-18 Junquera Street, Cebu City. Through the years this pioneer branch has served as the head office and has seven memorial chapels and offices.

**1960 - Villa Abrille, Davao City**  
Cosmopolitan opened its first branch in the city of Davao located in the Villa Abrille area.

**1970 - Cagayan de Oro City**  
On September of 1970, Cosmopolitan established a memorial home, which included three chapel suites.

**1975 - Davao Branch, Cebu**  
Cosmopolitan saw the need to set up a branch in Cebu's neighboring areas. In 1975, another branch was established in Davao, Cebu City.



**1976 - Mandau City, Metro Cebu**  
Cosmopolitan started a small operational chapel in the vicinity of Mandau as a transition into a fully operational funeral home.

**1976 - Lapu-Lapu City, Metro Cebu**  
In 1976, an opportunity to open in Lapu-Lapu was seized and another memorial chapel was established.

**1980 - Argao, Cebu Province**  
On February of 1980, Cosmopolitan opened in Argao to service the needs of the rural community.

**1981 - Iligan City**  
Cosmopolitan Memorial Homes in Iligan City features three chapels and offers affordable alternatives.



**1984 - Iligan Branch, Cebu**  
Located at the tip of the island of Cebu, Cosmopolitan Iligan provides funeral services to the public in community of Iligan City and barangays.

**1990 - Carcar Branch, Cebu**  
Cosmopolitan Carcar is servicing patients in need of funeral services and caskets.

**1991 - Calinan, Mandau City**  
Located in the middle of the highway, this branch opened to serve and assist in the needs of bereaved families.

**1992 - Nivel Hills, Cebu City**  
The Cosmopolitan Nivel Branch features of world class character and state of the art systems and technology. The center of home hours of all funeral chapels, a business center & training facility.

**1995 - Valencia, Buldilin**  
Cosmopolitan Buldilin offers 10 local residents with a fully functional building and offers 2 chapel rooms.

**2001 - Ilahan, Mandau City**  
The Ilahan Branch was inaugurated in November 2001. It was said that it "lived up to its name and character". The Mandau Branch holds five funeral chapels suites.

**2002 - Camin, Davao City**  
The Camin Branch is Cosmopolitan's pride in the Mindanao region. The branch opened in November 2002. The facilities include 10 chapels and funeral chapels. "All the facilities and necessities can be found in a five star hotel" as quoted the Sun Star Daily Davao.



## Cosmopolitan Memorial Chapels, Inc. "Bridging Life to Eternity"

**Main Office: 16-18 Junquera St., Cebu City**

(63-32) 256-0491 to 94

Fax (63-32) 255-2652



**The Pacific Center for Mortuary Studies**  
RSD Resources International  
Nivel Lahug Cebu City 6000

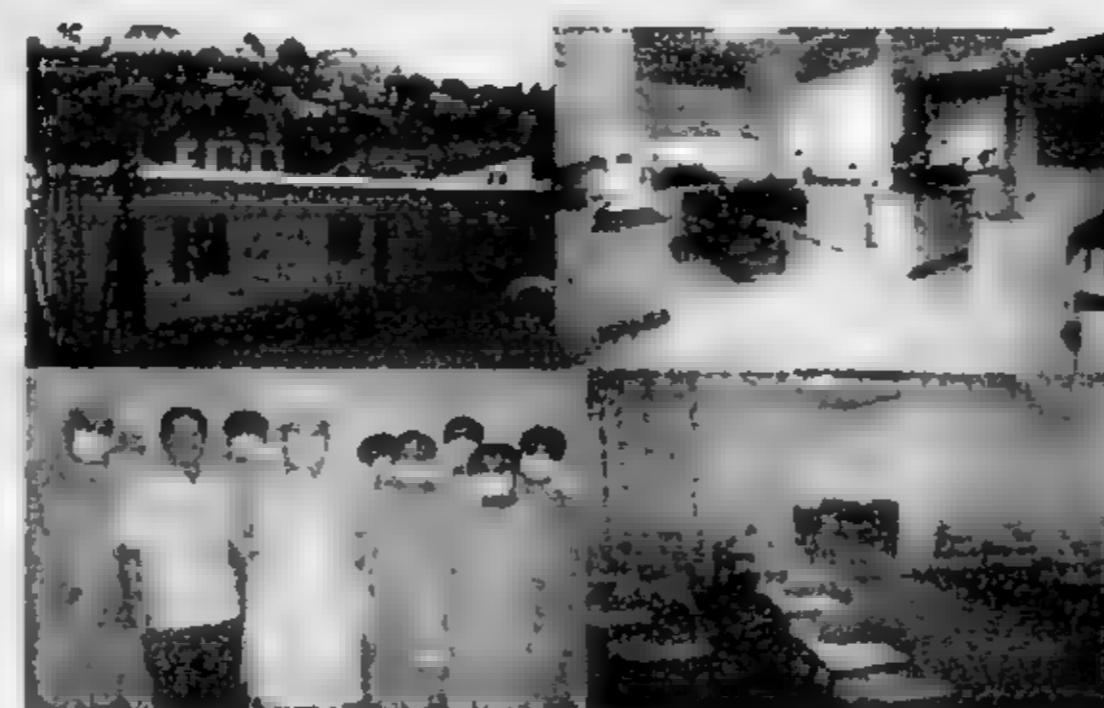
# Cosmopolitan unveils franchise support products and services

**COSMOPOLITAN** Memorial Chapels, a pioneer and market leader in the Philippine deathcare industry, will be presenting some of its major projects in support of its recently launched franchising initiative at Silent Moments 2004, an exhibition on the Philippine deathcare industry this October 8-9 at the Forum, PICC, CCP Complex, Pasay City.

Among the many Cosmopolitan exclusive products and services to be presented are products from Dodge Chemicals, international market leader for embalming and restorative chemicals and equipment, Batesville Caskets Inc., the leading casket manufacturer in the world, and the Pacific Center for Mortuary Studies, the only mortuary science training facility in Asia. Cosmopolitan franchisees will have full access to these exclusive products and services as part of their franchise package.

"We wanted to provide an excellent support system for our franchisees so we're giving them international-standard product and training support. With the proper tools and training our franchisees will have all they need to make their franchise a huge success," says Renato "Oly" Dychangco, President and CEO.

Cosmopolitan's franchising company, Cosmopolitan



Cares, was launched earlier this year at the Philippine Franchise Expo last July 2004. Investor interest proved greater than expected.

With the introduction of truly professional products and skill training, Cosmopolitan reaffirms its commitment to providing only the best to its franchisees and clientele. Interested franchisees may direct their inquiries to Cosmopolitan's Franchise office at 032-231-0721.

## LIWANAG CANDLE

### 'Ang Pambansang Kandila'

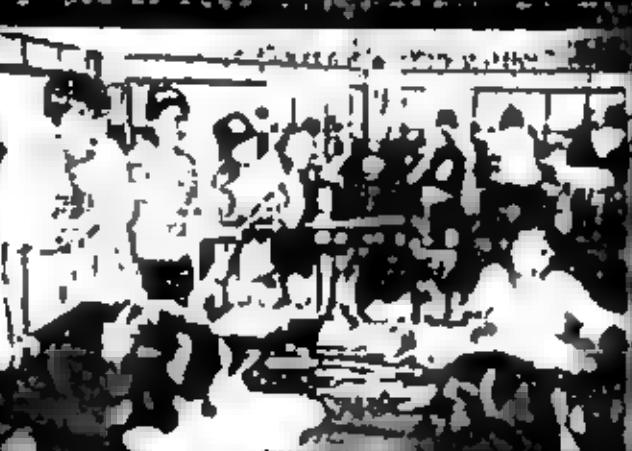
LIWANAG CANDLE is now on its 40<sup>th</sup> years of service giving light to the nation. Being known for its high quality candle and best in service they are consistent in getting the prestigious awards from National Consumers Choice Awards: (1) Top Candle Brand- National Consumers Quality Awards: August 2004 (2) Outstanding Candle Brand- Family Product Excellence Award: June 2004 (3) Top Candle Brand of the Year: 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Year-ender Excellence Awards: December 2003 (4) Most Outstanding Candle Brand: Consumer Choice Awardee: October 2003 (5) Top Candle Brand: 19<sup>th</sup> Annual National Consumers Quality Awards (6) Outstanding Candle Brand: 2003 Asia-Pacific Excellence Awards: May 2003 (7) Top Candle Brand of the Year: National Consumers Choice Awardee: December 2002 (8) Grand Prize Winner 2002: First Philippine Candle Design Competition: December 2002.

We are assuring our consumer that we will be continuously providing them the best quality products and best consumer service. Consistent product innovation and improvement is being done to meet and satisfy the market's demand.

# THE HERITAGE PARK FORT BONIFACIO

## A Celebration of Life 2004

The Heritage Park once again invites one and all to join and be a part of A Celebration of Life '04 and give tribute to our dearly departed loved ones. This year's roster of activities promises to make the experience a memorable one for all.



### Oct. 31-Halloween Night Family Fun

Go trick or treating with Mom and Dad through the Park. Halloween fun guaranteed for the whole family as games and cool prizes await those who join.

Featuring Flintstones and the Gang Listen to party band Flintstones and the Gang perform covers of popular songs from the 60's, to the 90's.

### Nov. 1-Tribute and Remembrance on All Saints Day

The solemn day of remembrance begins with the celebration of the Holy Mass at The Heritage Park chapel. The blessing of the graves promptly follows.

To be held at The Heritage Park Chapel

### Oct. 31-Open House

Listen to Reverend Father Mario Sobrejuenite as he discusses the beauty and joy of the human experience in an inspirational talk called "A Purpose Driven Life". Later join The Heritage Park community and participate in the moving experience that is the Candle Lighting Ceremony.

Featuring Flintstones and the Gang Listen to party band Flintstones and the Gang perform covers of popular songs from the 60's, to the 90's.

The Heritage Park also has prepared several regular activities that friends and family are certain to enjoy.

Test your angling skills by registering and participating in one of The Heritage Park's most awaited events. Prizes will go to the lucky angler who catches the biggest fish.

See how your kite designs and kite flying skills stand against the Park's legendary winds.

Join the fun by participating in The Heritage Park's Face Painting activity.

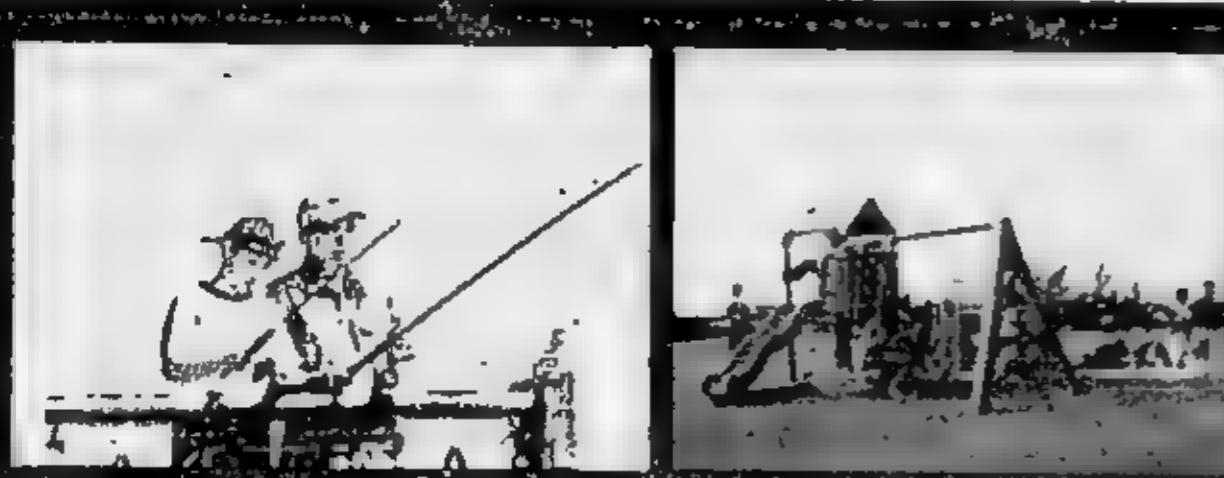
Former president of the International Institute of Chinese Esoteric Sciences Studies Professor Charlie Chao shall be on hand from Oct. 31 to Nov. 1 to offer his expertise on Chinese Geomancy.

Satisfy your taste buds right inside The Heritage Park. Experience the yummy treats offered by the various food concessionaires which will be open for business for the 3-day event.

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Gather the whole family and cap the day by watching a handpicked selection of films the whole family can enjoy.

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## LASTING MEMORY

Quezon City's first columbarium (and Chapel) is a modern day depository for the cremated remains of the departed.

**THE COLUMBARY**, is a joint venture project with the Augustinian Fathers and real estate Company Redoble Development Corporation (RDC). It is located inside the lush gardens of the San Agustin Seminary Campus in Fisheries Street, Visayas Avenue, Quezon City. This Columbarium and Chapel development with a land area of 1.7 hectares houses 35,000 vaults. To date, The Columbarium has more than P2 billion worth of salable inventory.

The Skyline Columbarium in Busay, Cebu City, is a joint venture between RDC and with EMRO International. Situated on top of a mountain 2,000 feet above the sea level, this chapel, botanical garden and columbarium is overlooking the Queen of City of the South. With a lighted, hundred foot spire, The Skyline Garden Columbarium soon will become a landmark the Cebuano landscape.

The Millenium Park and Ossuary located at Poblacion North, Polanco Zamboanga Del Norte is a real estate property owned and developed by the Loreos Realty Corporation, a subsidiary of the Redoble Development Corporation. It is a lawn-type, non-sectarian memorial park in an aggregated area of 49,069sq.m. It is the company's first fully developed memorial park.

## Loyola Memorial Chapels & Crematorium

*A special and best service from the pioneer*

LOVED ones who passed away deserve only the special and best service. At Loyola Memorial Chapels and Crematorium, special care and attention for the needs of loved ones who passed away and their remaining families is of prime importance.

The pioneer in memorial services was established on January 16, 1970 and until now it is the name best associated with the best memorial service.

It offers well-appointed and comfortably air-conditioned chapels at its branches in Guadalupe in Makati and Sucat in Paranaque. Loyola Memorial Chapels in Guadalupe has 18 chapels, while Loyola Memorial in Sucat has 8.

You can always have a choice of memorial packages from Loyola Memorial Chapels and Crematorium to suit the bereaved family's needs. Packages include direct cremation, cremation package with three-day wake, cremation package which includes the following: urn, facilitation permits, catering services, video coverage, and entombment of remains. For more information, call 8951011.

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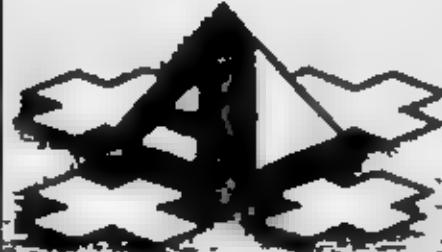
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**WEBSITE:**

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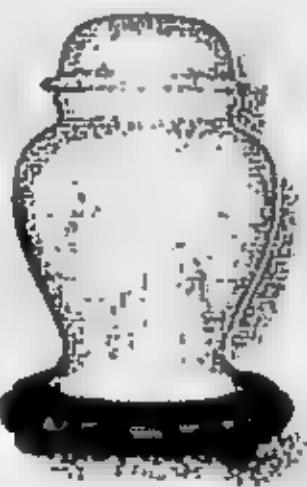
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- ② Any identification document (I.D.)



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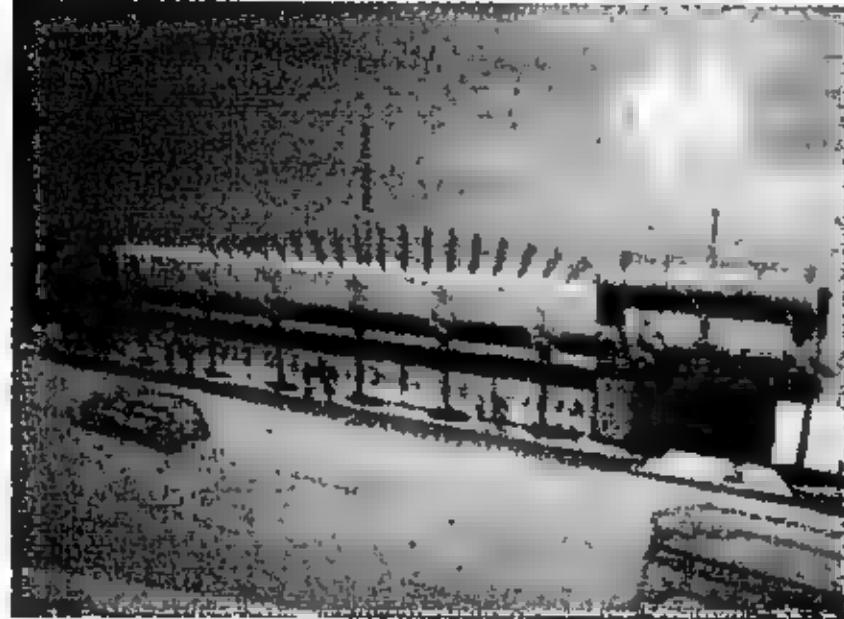
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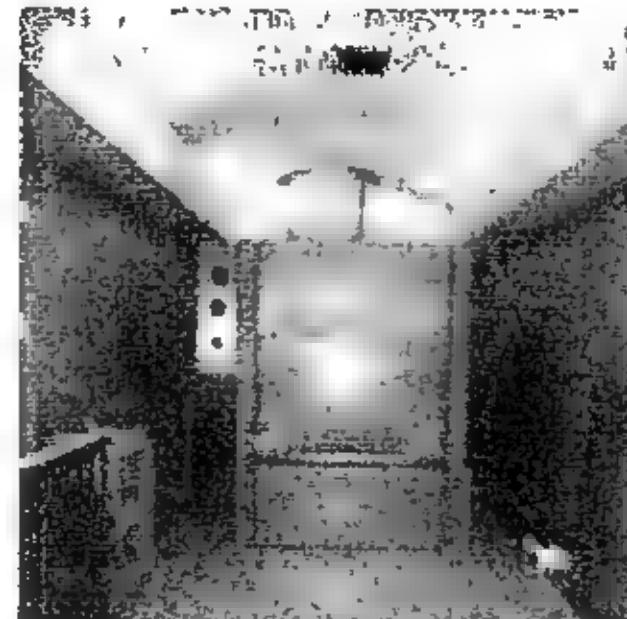
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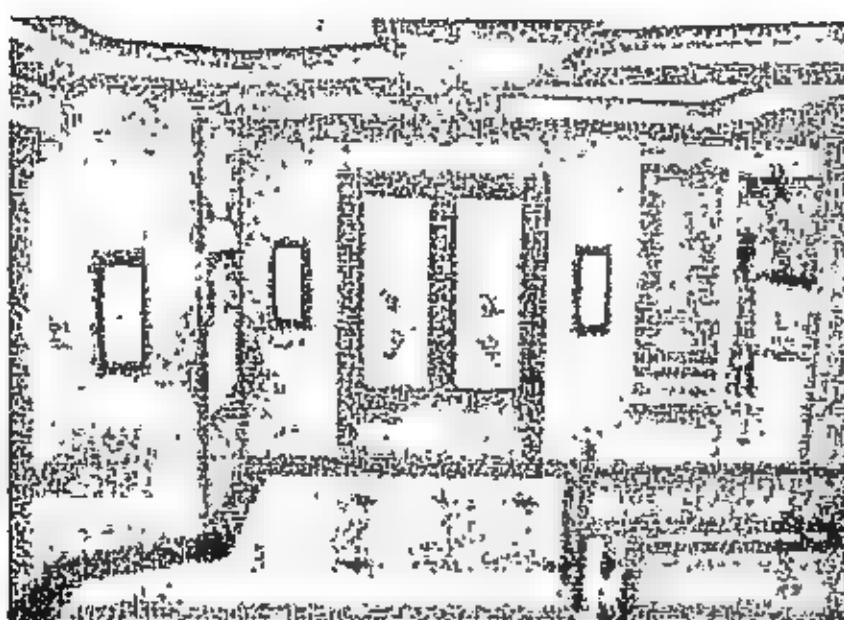
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# Innovative services for our deceased loved ones

By Joel V. Nigos

ARLINGTON Memorial Chapels Inc., which started servicing clients in 1982, can be considered new in the business when compared to other funeral firms in the country.

But its supposed "newness" in the industry does not hinder the company to offer services that are considered the best in the industry, not to mention innovative.

Reason why it serves over 2,000 families a month or on the average about 180 per month. This makes it one of the top funeral firms today.

From its original home in Rizal Avenue, Manila, to its transfer to its present home in Araneta Avenue in Quezon City, Arlington always has aces up its sleeve to serve the demand of its changing market.

Some of the innovations that it offers today include the memorialization for the dead, the holding of wakes away from the funeral chapel, tie-ups with hotels, the use of technology, among others.

Memorialization for the dead, the only one in the industry, is a way of giving tribute to the deceased by

depicting his life from his youth to his golden age. This would give visitors to the wake, who are paying their last respects, idea to the life the deceased has lived during his time on earth.

Arlington also takes advantage of the use of technology. Here, visitors can sign guest books using electronic boards where immortal moments of the deceased are flashed on the screen.

Another is the holding of a wake away from the usual funeral chapel. Arlington uses garden setting, a break from the monotony of most funeral services.

To expand this concept, the company is investing P150 million for the construction of the Araneta Garden Villas, also in Quezon City. This will have four exclusive garden villas in a two-story building situated on a 2,400-meter lot.

The company is also negotiating with two nearby hotels for possible tie-

ups. Company officials wanted a place for families who have wakes at the funeral chapels.

Arlington was founded by the late Nestor Lopez Jose. When he passed away in 1992, his children continued his legacy. At present, the five siblings—Cynthia, Cristina, Menchie, Carrie and Raffy—have joined together to run the company combining their various expertise in the fields of medicine, advertising, marketing and psychology.

## MMCI: A full service mortuary

MARIAN Memorial Chapels is a full service mortuary. Marian Memorial Chapels, Inc. (MMCI) runs Marian Memorial Chapels and it has been in this field of expertise for over thirteen (13) years. It was established as a single proprietorship in 1991 and was incorporated in 2001.

Marian Memorial Chapels is situated along Marcos Highway, Antipolo City, which is around the vicinity of Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall and several subdivisions and villages, the likes of Filinvest East, Town and Country Exec. Vill., Vermont Royale and Vermont Park.. It houses several chapels, which can

accommodate over a hundred family members and visitors per chapel at any given time. Each chapel has its own air-conditioned family room with sofa bed and comfort rooms. Currently, additional three (3) viewing chapels are being constructed on its garden wing.

It also provides funeral services to adjacent subdivisions/villages and barangays within Rizal province, to other cities/municipalities within Metro Manila and to all provinces nationwide. Marian Memorial Chapels can also accommodate and facilitate services overseas, inbound and outbound.

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## Crematory services at La Funeraria Paz

By Joel V. Nigos

CONTRARY to perception that cremating our deceased loved ones is an expensive process, La Funeraria Paz offers crematory services that are not only affordable but also a practical way of interring our loved ones.

With the high cost of burying our dead the "traditional way," the mortuary believes that cremation is the answer to families when the unexpected happens. With cremation, grieving families need not worry about memorial lots or memorial parks, they only have to secure an urn where they can place the deceased's ashes.

La Funeraria Paz offers crematory services not only for human remains but also for exhumed human remains. There are different rates for adults and children and also for the exhumed human bones.

Cremation rates at La Funeraria Paz can be as low as P10,000 for human remains if the cremation service is done during regular hours, which means from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. There would be additional charges if the cremation were done beyond these hours.

Cremation rate for a deceased child is only P6,500, the same rate it charges if what's going to be cremated are exhumed human bones.

There are also a wide variety of choices for urns where the family can place the ashes of their deceased loved ones. Urns can be local or imported and can be made of marble, wood, metal, porcelain or brass. Cost varies from P2,000 to P30,000. Urns, which are made from imported special metals, are the most expensive.

La Funeraria Paz began servicing the growing cremation market in 1995 when it acquired two crematory units. The mortuary used to cremate only one human remains a day but now it cremates an average of five per day. Used to be accepted only by the upper class AB groups, the process now starts to gain wider acceptance. The mortuary now also serves a growing class C market.

La Funeraria Paz has over 100 years of experience in the eternal or death care industry. Its first mortuary, which continues to service grieving families this day, is located at C.M. Recto Ave. The mortuary at Araneta Ave. was established during the 1970s while another one in Baguio was during the 1990s. It also services clients inside the Manila Memorial Park in Sucat, Parañaque, for about three years now.

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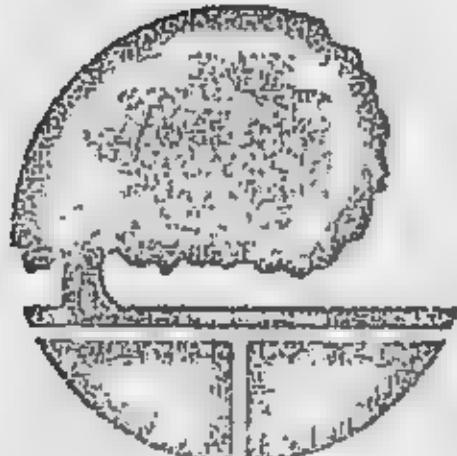
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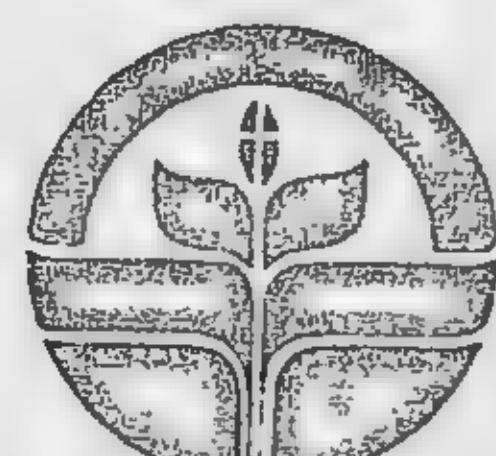
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# **JOBZ EMPLOYMENT EXPO 2004**

**NOVEMBER 22 - 24, 2004 Glorietta Activity Center**

**The Glorietta Activity Center, a haven for fashionistas, shopaholics and job seekers... Yes, job seekers!**

Come **November 22, 23 & 24**, the **Activity Center** will be buzzing with eager applicants in search of employment and / or career advancement. The **Inquirer's Job Market** will once again transform the venue into a corporate jungle where HR Practitioners and job seekers meet and converge for the second leg of **JOBZ: Employment Expo 2004**.

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Francine Prieto

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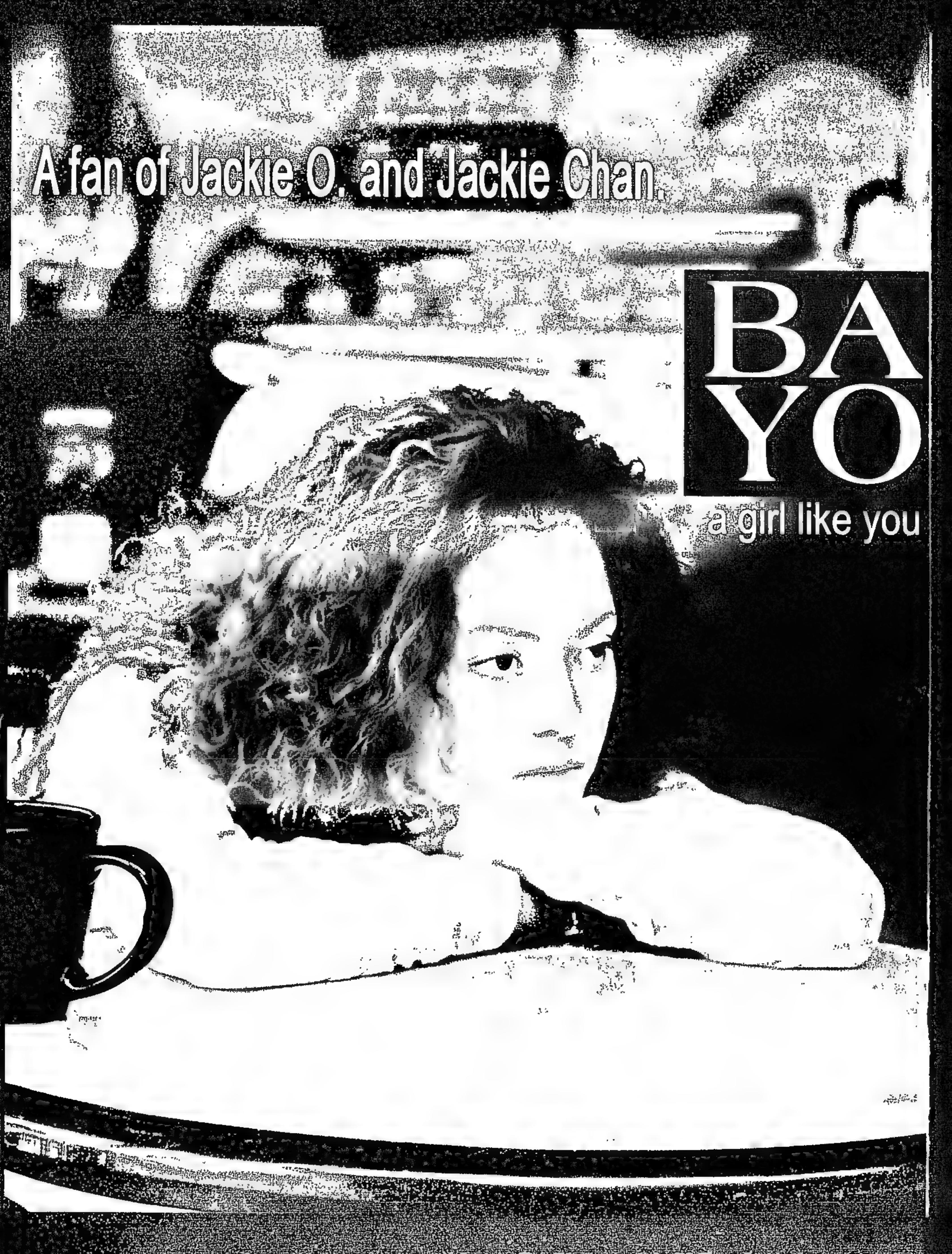
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## NEXT ISSUE:

JUST SHOP 2 issues in Nov.  
(19 & 26)

Great Holiday Looks  
Decadent Accessories  
Celebrity Christmas Wish List  
And More Gift Ideas!

## Mabuhay MTV!



Thanks Inquirer  
for giving me the  
venue to enhance  
my craft! Mwah!

## I'll be in the mall, err, home for Christmas...

You can count on it! Since we entered the ber months, I have been in full-time *mall-ing* mode. As if I'm not in the mall enough, but this time it's more than my usual window-shopping, sourcing and the occasional splurges. I spend more time looking for and buying Christmas gifts for my cute, loyal friends, family, and of course, to share my finds with JUST SHOP readers. As it turns out, I'm not the only one busy *mall-ing*. My shopping buddy, Superl Creative Director Tim Yap has become an honorary JUST SHOP-PER, for taking time out from his crazy schedule to do a special section, JUST SHOP For Him—FLIP IT! (Literally flip the magazine to read).

I love gift-giving. It's one way of showing how much my loved ones mean to me. It's also another excuse to stay in the malls a bit longer. I wish I'm one of those people who can come up with thoughtful last-minute gifts. The truth is, I enjoy taking my time looking for gifts. In fact, I already have boxes and gift bags prepared for each of my loved ones. Slowly, I fill each goody box or bag with special tokens such as a small poetry book with a charmed bookmark, or a monogrammed pink or zebra-print, lace thong, or a new skin care product I discovered that's in my can't-live-without-it-for-the-moment list. But if push comes to shove, I do have a few fool-proof gift ideas that can make any *fashionista* friend shriek "Grabe!" My faves are chandelier earrings so blinding they'd make any girl's outfit sparkle; a mini champagne bottle from Marks & Spencer with two pink straws, a velvet ribbon (that doubles as a belt or headband, mind you) with a red gift card (for a Christmas-y feel). For guys, it's usually a six-month or a one-year (depending on my budget) subscription to their favorite magazine. I put the gift check in a huge box (guys, in general, like big packages, no pun intended). I wrap the box with old newspaper, and tie it up with green or red shoestring and top it off with a poinsettia flower.

The best gifts I've received are assorted little items, which when put together in a gift box, mean something. The gift becomes even more meaningful when it's sent with a handwritten note.

Ace gift-givers, whether they're acquaintances or friends, take the trouble to find out what I appreciate. I love accessories, glassware (I collect everything from champagne flutes to thick Mexican glasses to kitschy Lily's Peanut Butter floral-designed glasses), and fashion books (hint, hint, I'm kidding).

The worst gifts I've received are fruitcakes, recycled gifts (especially those with their original gift cards) and used perfume (note: new ones take a few pumps before they spritz). They are clearly an indication of how much I mean (or not) to the person, who will most likely end up in my yuckers list.

To avoid landing in anyone's yuckers list, flip through the pages of JUST SHOP. It is this season's ultimate GIFT GUIDE.

We have scoured malls, bazaars and specialty shops to make shopping easier on your feet, not to mention your wallet (we got great bargains). Because we want you to JUST SHOP and spend more time with your loved ones this holiday season.

Everybody now... 'Tis the season to be shopping...Fa...la...la...

*Jenni Epp.*

## My Picks



I love this! Especially it's named after our mag!  
ARANAZ MANILA 'JUST SHOP' bag, P3,500. Pm, P500



To inspire Ideas for my  
way-too-cool friends  
THIS DIARY WILL CHANGE YOUR  
LIFE 2005 (Bennik Hodder &  
Sloughton), P909. FULLY BOOKED

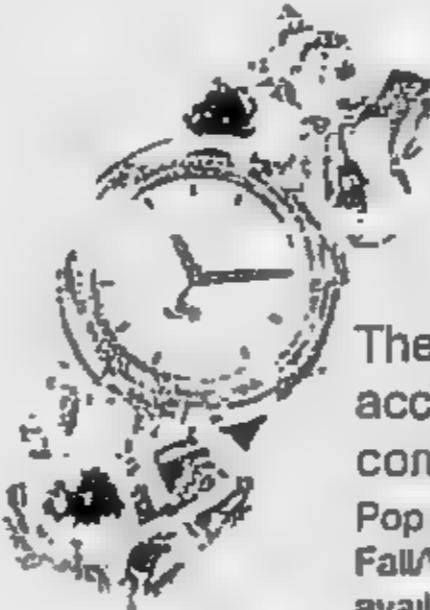


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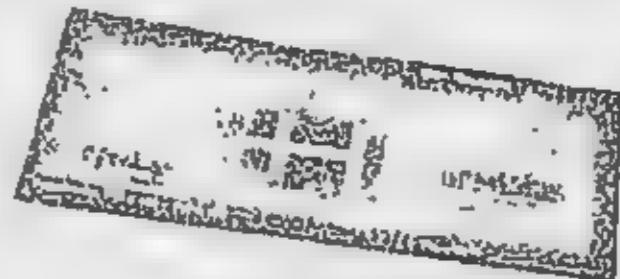


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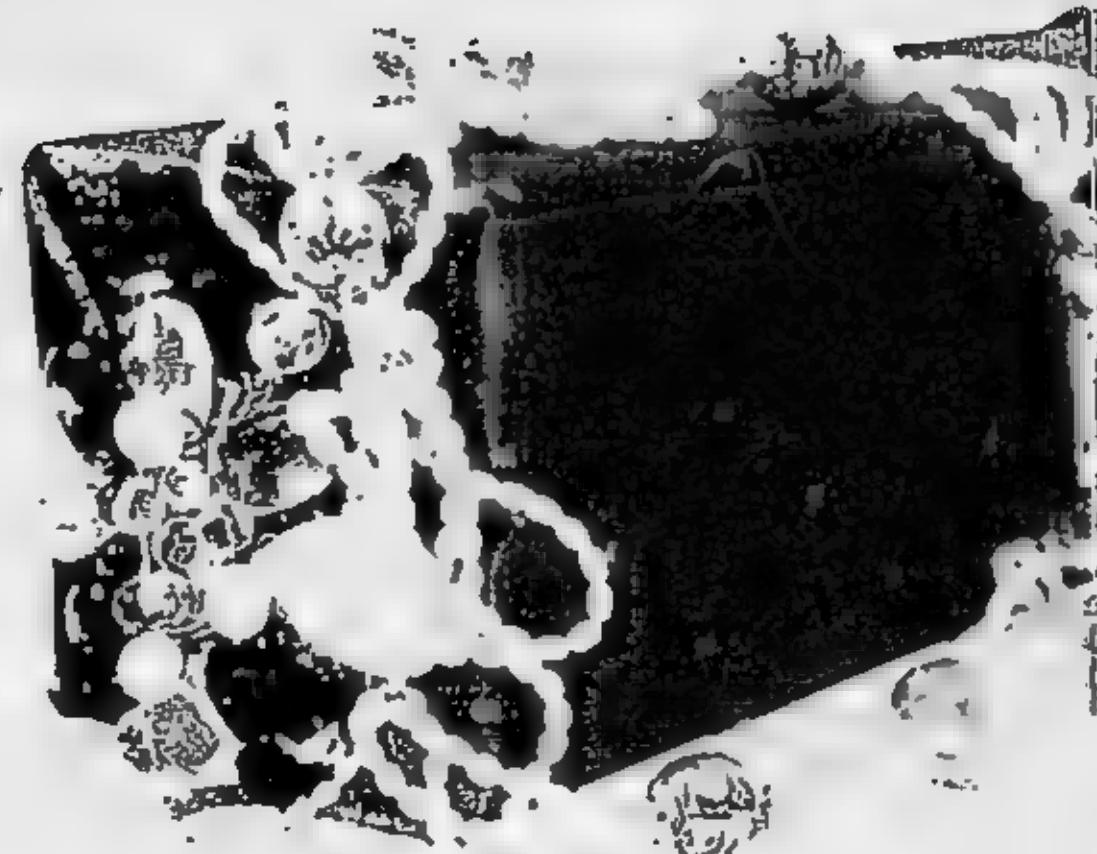


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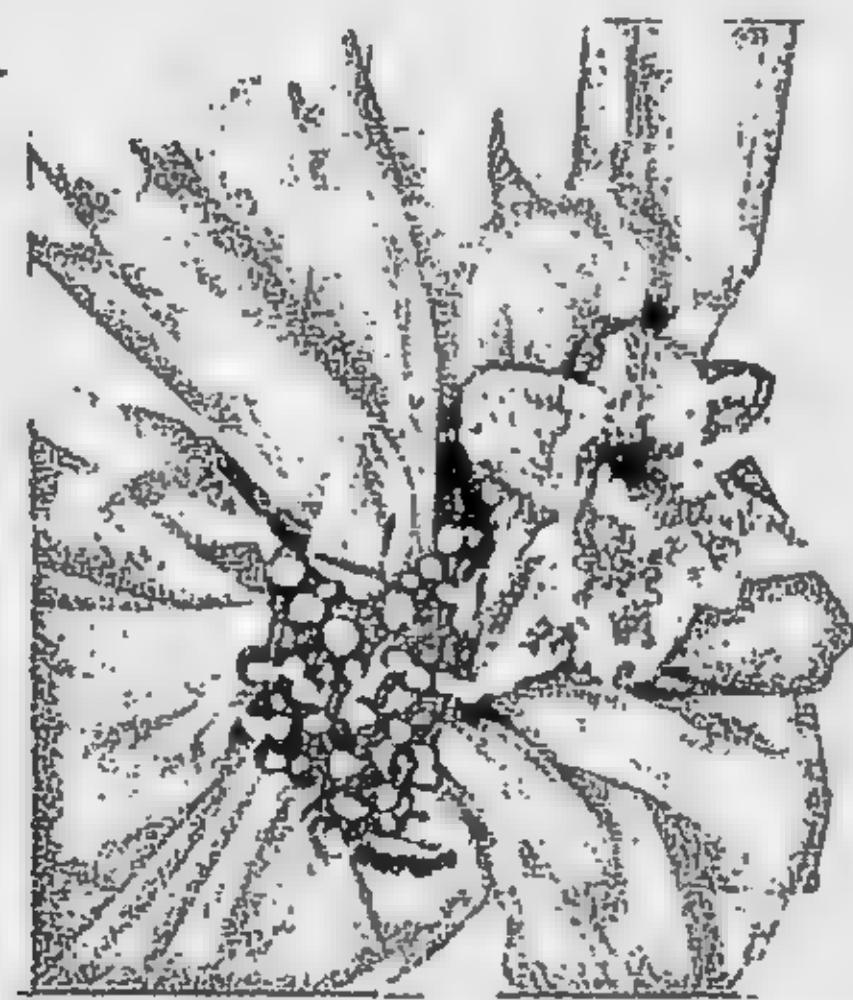
# Wrap Star

Steer clear of those boring printed paper and gaudy plastic berries. This Christmas, wrap your presents with fabulous (and useful) accessories. Packaging becomes as exciting as the surprise it has inside.

Photography COI SAMOTH



Tickled Pink- Pearl lariat ties it all in place! CAROLINA'S LACE SHOPPE tulle fabric, P40/yd; PETITA lariat, P900.



Treasure Hunt- Fabric zebra print belt ties into a useful bow accent! A.CONSPIRACY belt, P250; PETITA necklace, P2,500.



Caped Crusader- Satin capelet doubles as a useful and stylish wrap (for your shoulders and as a gift)! Striking floral stone necklace makes the perfect centerpiece. A.CONSPIRACY capelet, price available upon request; HAINEE necklace, P2,000.



Exotic India- Metallic Indian fabric adds whimsy to your present. With woven pearl necklace and brooch--- oh, so precious! PETITA necklace, P2,700; HAINEE brooch, P300



Perfectly Tulle- Silver tulle gets pretty with a rice pearl collar necklace! FABRIC WAREHOUSE tulle fabric, P40/yd; PETITA necklace, P3,100; ARANAZ MANILA brooch, P500

[www.samsung.ph](http://www.samsung.ph)



ATHENS 2004



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# E800

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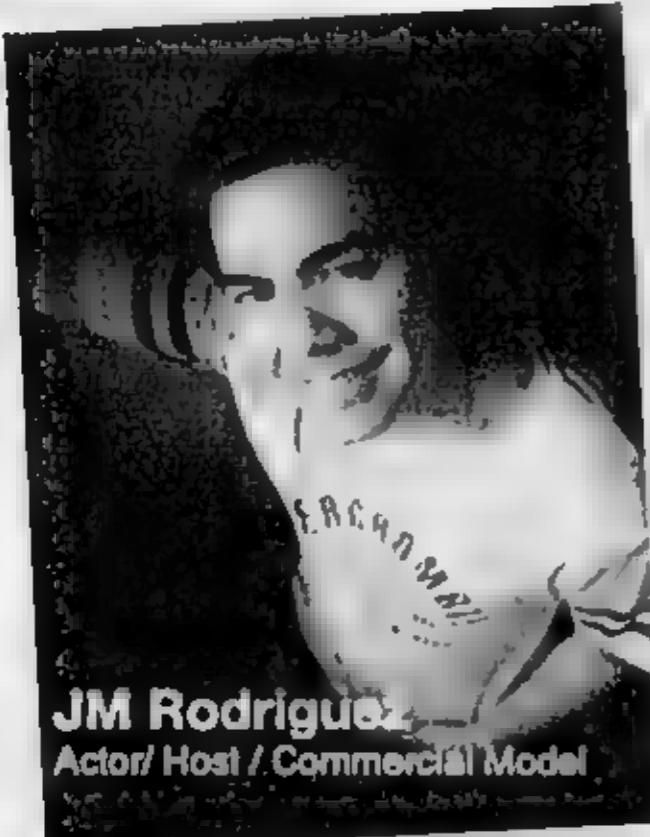
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1515 Series of 2004

*Blowout's  
Budget*

# Presents Perfect

This season, break the bank or stretch that budget. From Greenhills to Greenbelt celebrity shoppers give you their coolest finds for both Lady Luxe and Ms. Penny-wise!

Product photography COI SAMOTH



## budget JM's picks

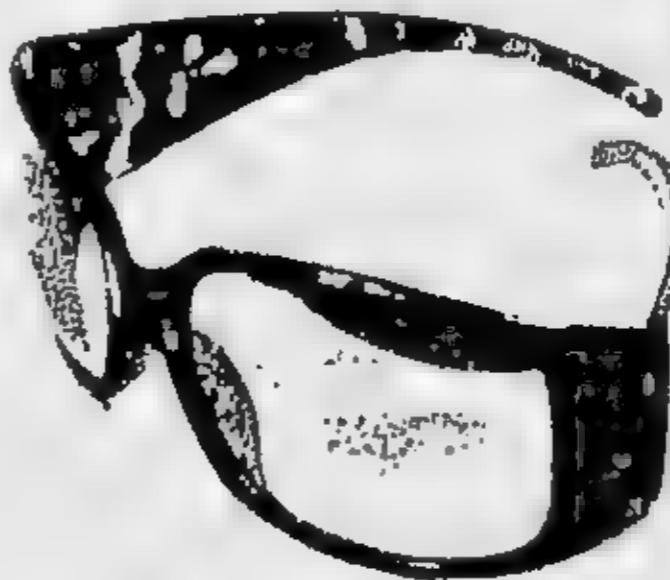


IN STORE tank top, P550

IN STORE necklace, P1,450



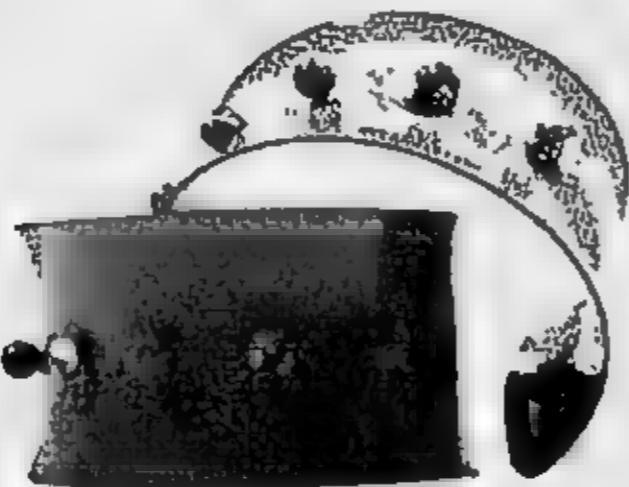
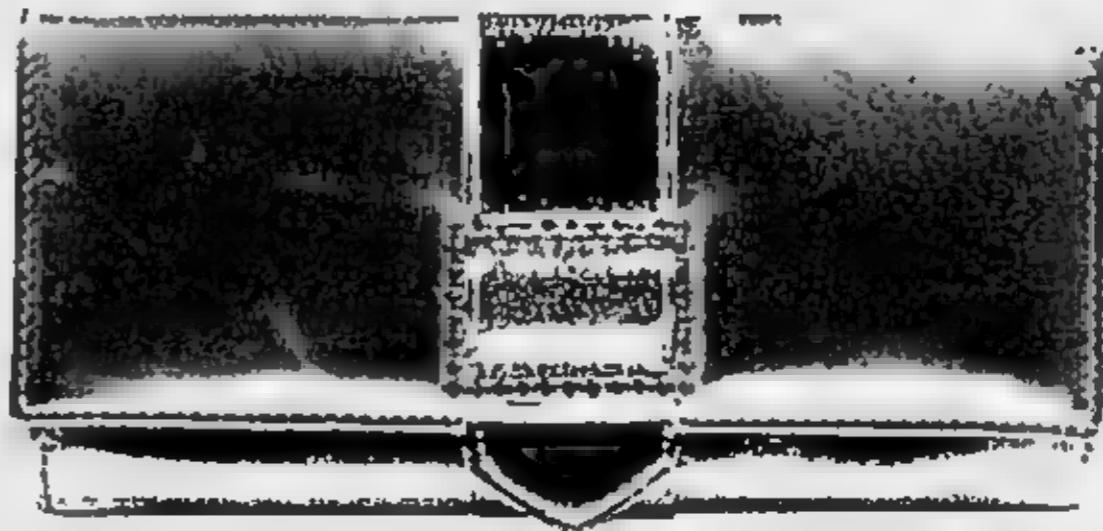
FABSHOP sunglasses, P550



CHECK IT OUT  
shoe, P650



HIP STOP wallet, P980



FABSHOP bangles,  
P299 each

## blowout Angelique's picks



Angelique Villaraza  
Public Relations Manager,  
Professional Products Division,  
L'Oréal, Paris.



GUCCI cigarette  
holder, P7,450

Tracy Reese dress,  
P19,999, MIX

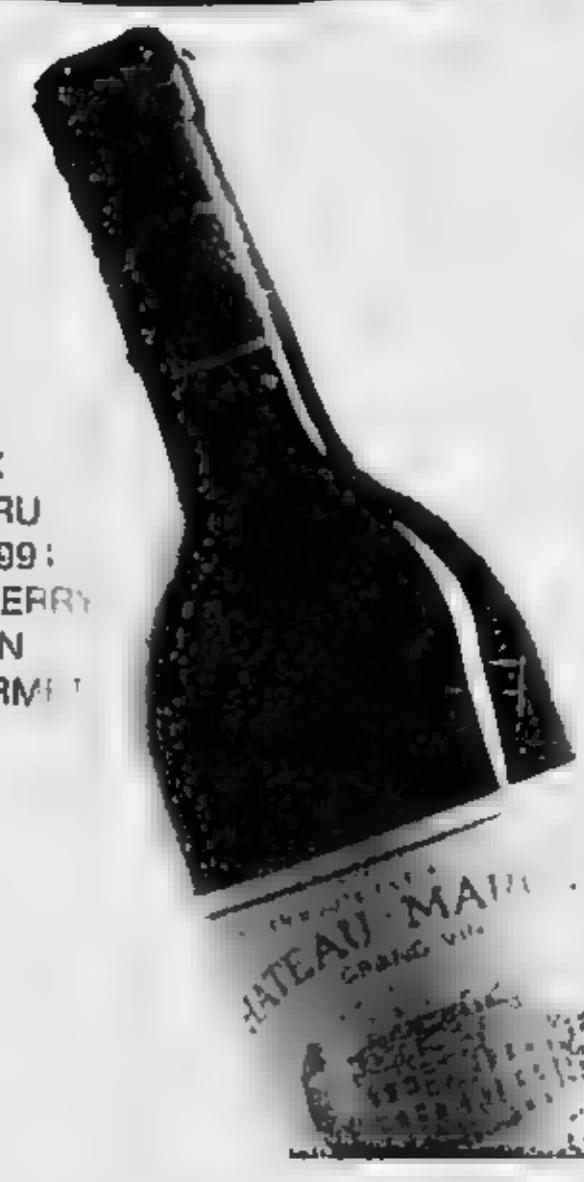


PAUL SMITH  
scarf, P8,300



PRADA shoe,  
P32,000

LOUIS VUITTON  
Dhanura bag,  
P65,000



CHÂTEAU  
MARGAUX  
GRAND CRU  
CLASSE 1995:  
P30,190. TERRY  
SELECTION  
THE GOURMET  
STORE



Preppy Chic

Denim Diva

## *Boyo Skirts It!*

There's no skirting this issue! Four looks to bring out the girl in you!

Photography COI SAMOTH  
Styling JENNI EPPERSON  
Hair and Makeup BENJIE ANGELES  
Model PAULA DEL ROSARIO

Preppy Chic  
Polo shirt, P595; long sleeved shirt, P955;  
skirt, P725; shoes, P899; bag, P599;  
necklace, P245.

Denim Diva  
T-shirt, P395; jacket, P1,195; skirt, P575;  
bag, P599; necklace, P399.

Party Princess  
T-shirt, P445; skirt, P745; shoes,  
P595; pin, P175; belt (used as neck-  
lace), P599.

Boho Babe  
Long sleeved shirt, P745; skirt,  
P725; shoes, P899; necklace,  
P399.



Boho Babe

BOHO BABE

# Let the (holiday) shop-a-thon begin

By: Anielle Santos

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way.....On my quest for that perfect brooch to complete my Holly Golightly ensemble this Halloween, I'm deafened by that all too familiar carol blasting from through the mall speakers. Indeed, it signals the start of my favorite time of the year-- more popularly known as the "Shop 'till you drop" season. Santa's elves are marching in to ignite the mad shopper in me. If there is a prime time for shopaholics, the Christmas season is it! There are mall-wide sales, bazaars and tiangges popping left and right, making it hard for shoppers to decide what to do (or what to buy).

Of course, not everyone regards Christmas the same way. In fact, a really good friend of mine gets migraines just thinking about the crowded shopping centers, traffic jams, Christmas lists, and the stress from fighting one's way through the mall madness.

The trick to stress-free shopping is to have the right frame of mind. Silly as it may sound, shopping is like a sport. Crowds, traffic and the Christmas rush are part of the game. You can't let these things get you down. Put your game face on and play hard! As with any sport, you have to come prepared. I prepare for my shopping trips by being in the mall, tiangge or bazaar, before or as soon as it opens, and by making sure that I have everything I need and NOTHING MORE. Believe me, carrying 10 pounds of packages while making your way through a dense crowd of people may be a good cardio, but with sky-high shoes on, it makes for one giant shopping *disasterouch!* So be smart and conquer the mall scene with your favorite *Havaianas* for instance!

Keep in mind that your offense has to be just as good as your defense. By offense, I mean how well or efficiently you shop. And by defense, I mean how you are able to take control of unforeseen obstacles (like getting distracted by a to-die-for bag you want for yourself when you're supposed to be shopping for a gift for Dad). My mom put it well when she said, "A smart shopper shops with open eyes and an open mind." In that one statement, she summed up what a person really has to know about shopping: Be practical and cautious, be

flexible in what you want, and be assertive in getting what you deserve.

On a final note, what makes a game worth playing is the fun you have doing it. Shopping is fun! Or at least it can be if you try to look at it positively. If you enjoy shopping with friends, then you can make an activity out of it. Meet in the mall early, do some shopping, catch up on each other's lives, and then reward yourselves with the creamiest, most delectable Frappuccino for doing all that "exercise." On the other hand, if you're a solitary shopper like me, then use your shopping trips as personal time. Be creative and think out of the box. Shopping can serve as a venue to be resourceful and creative in finding the right items for you, your family members and friends.

This Christmas, look forward to shopping instead of seeing it as a chore. As the song goes, "It is the most wonderful time of the year."

## Top 5 Christmas Shopping Tips

### 1. Be an early bird.

Shopping centers can get crowded in the latter part of the day. Arrive at the mall right before it opens to get the best selection of the merchandise (not to mention a parking slot).

### 2. Get Real.

Don't exceed your budget (or at least TRY not to). Decide on how much you are willing to spend, and just bring that amount -- no more, no less.

### 3. Show me the money!

Be sure you have cash before heading to the mall or any bazaar so you avoid having to queue at the ATM.

### 4. Better watch out... so you don't cry.

Do not leave your wallet, packages, cell phone, or other personal belongings on the counter or anywhere a pickpocket can have access to them.

### 5. Keep your receipts.

Ask about refund and return policies for regular and sale items. Keep all of your receipts just in case you need to return or exchange items..

## Shop Girls



**Keng Zulueta**  
Chief Makeup Artist, Shu Uemura

JUST SHOP What's the best budget gift to give this Christmas? XZ For the budget gal the I have to recommend the SWEET LIP GLOSS MINI TRIO KIT. For P1,000 you get SHU UEMURA'S 3 best-selling shades: Cherry, Mandarin Raspberry in mini tubes  
JS And the best blowout gift?  
XZ Hands down it's the Limited Edition RED MAKEUP BOX for P18,995. Already with a mailing list, it's an absolute must-have! You can use it as a travel bag or be the most up to date makeup junkie around.  
and



**Selin Tekeli**  
Managing Consultant, Mango

JS What's the best time to go shopping?  
ST Definitely in the mornings when the store is less crowded. Especially during the sale. And every 2 weeks because that's when we get our new shipments.  
JS What's the best gift to give from MANGO?  
ST A MANGO bag!



**Daisy Doctolero**  
Store Manager, Topshop Shanghai Plaza

JS What's the best time to go shopping?  
DD Weekends are still the best time to go shopping because you're more relaxed and you can take your time looking around a shop. But go in the morning when there's definitely less people.  
JS What's the best gift to give from TOPSHOP?  
DD People love to receive cute knickers! And for the Christmas season we'll even put it in a TOPSHOP Gift Bag.

# Shining Star



Tank top, P349.75, men's boxer brief, P279.75, both from BENCH BODY GIRL SHOPPE Jean chain (used as necklace), P250 each.

Photography TOM EPPERSON  
Styling JENNI EPPERSON  
Hair and Makeup HENRI CALAYAG of H-Salon

On the cover Francine wears  
Tank top, P109 Bra, P399.75 Underwear  
P149.75 AI from BENCH BODY COLOR  
STONE clip, P1200 GIRL SHOPPE earrings  
P295. CAROLINA'S LACE SHOPPE gloves, P220

Bench Body model and actress, Francine Prieto unwraps her Christmas wish list and more.

s is for..  
everyone!

upper or last-minute buyer?  
Definitely a last-minute buyer. There are more choices the nearer it gets to Christmas. And the sales!

unter or luxe buyer?  
It depends on the person I'm giving it to and if I like him/her a lot then I splurge.  
thing about gift-giving is..  
when the person who got the gift says,  
"Oh, she remembered me."

thing about receiving a gift

that someone remembered me! It makes Christmas more special.

gift I've received..  
is a laptop which just made my Friendster even more accessible!

Top 10 items in your Christmas wish list?

1. Spa gift check
2. A pair of diamond earrings
3. Makeup
4. Smallest digital camera available
5. Shoes...size 10 please!
6. A LOUIS VUITTON Papillon bag
7. KENZO perfume
8. Pink iPod mini
9. Gold charm bracelet
10. A boyfriend!

Top 10 items you love to give?

1. Beauty products
2. BENCH products
3. Ham
4. Chinese red envelope with money, of course
5. Bags
6. Fruits
7. Accessories
8. Perfume
9. Toys
10. Books

In giving and receiving remember that.

it's the thought that counts. It's not about the price or brand.



DKNY

## Furry nice



DOROTHY PERKIN



EPISODE



JESSICA

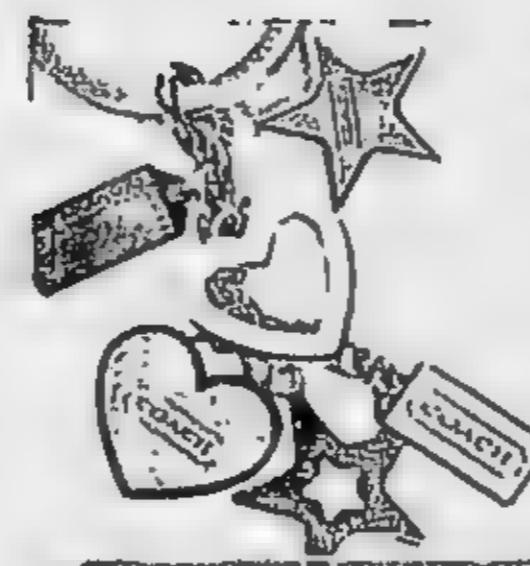
Give yourself a swanky winter style!

## Sis/Girlfriend/Daughter

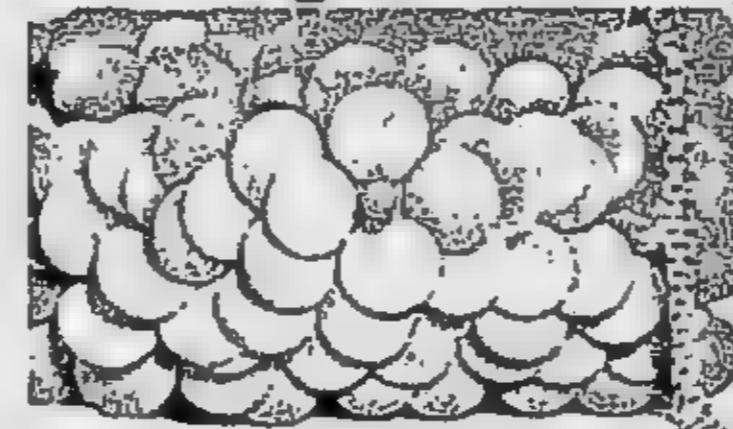
Pretty things  
she'll surely love!



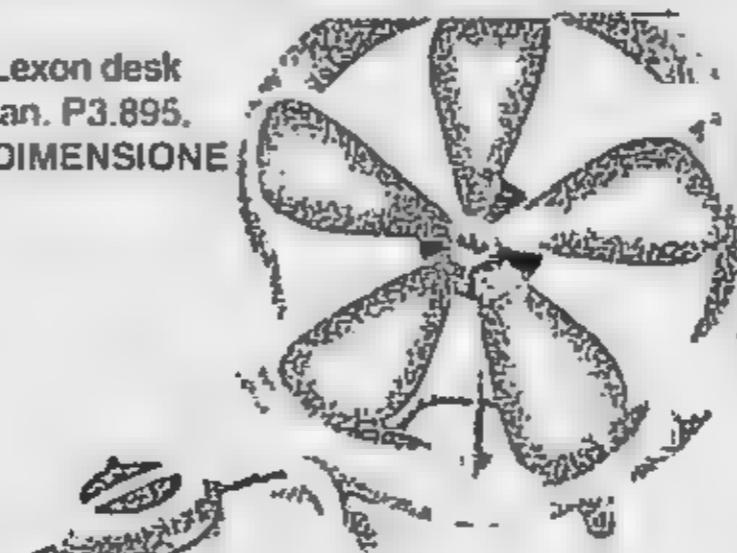
Kare Design tea light holder, P950, QUILL



COACH key chain, P2,950



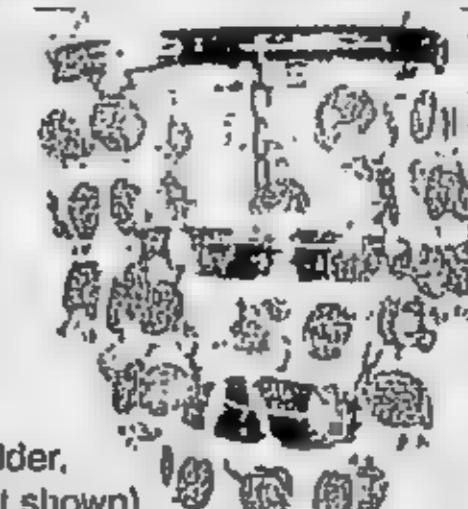
ARANAZ MANILA bag, P1,300



Lexon desk fan, P3,895. DIMENSIONE



A. J. Morgan eye glasses, P3,050, SIMPLE PLEASURES



KISH tea light holder, P2,000 (stand not shown)



TICKLES dog collar, P85  
MAKE ROOM dog carner, P1,300



TINT bag, P4,398



BATH  
BLOOMERS  
QUENCHING  
CREAM BODY  
MASSAGE  
CREAM  
in Cedrus  
Geranium  
Kyphi. P625  
BEAUTY BAR

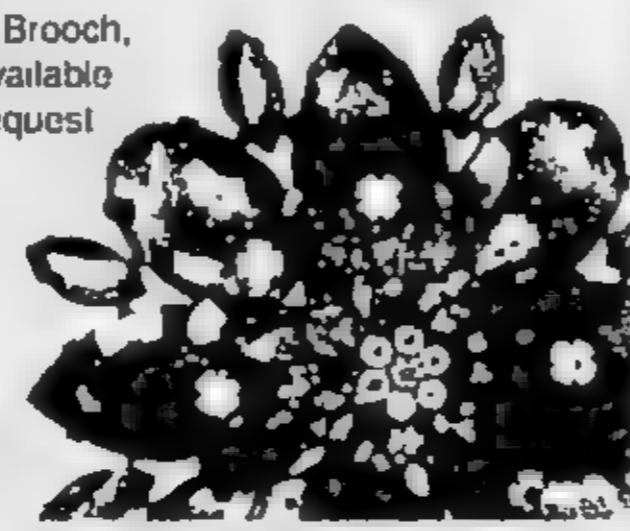
MANGO shawl, P1,599



PAUL SMITH BLUE sweater, P29,850



GUCCI wallet, P1,250



FIRMA Brooch,  
price available  
upon request



ENZO ANGIOLINI  
shoes, P4,450

## Mom/Tita



## Dad/Tito/Boss

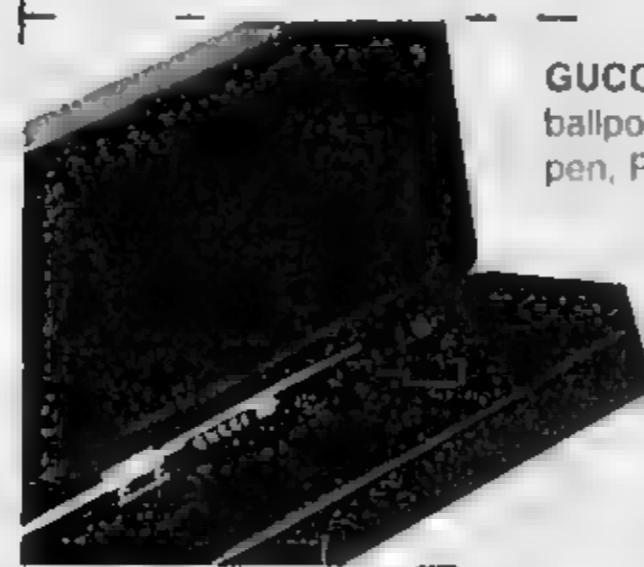
Make him beam with  
these cool surprises!



J-me key holder,  
P695, KISH



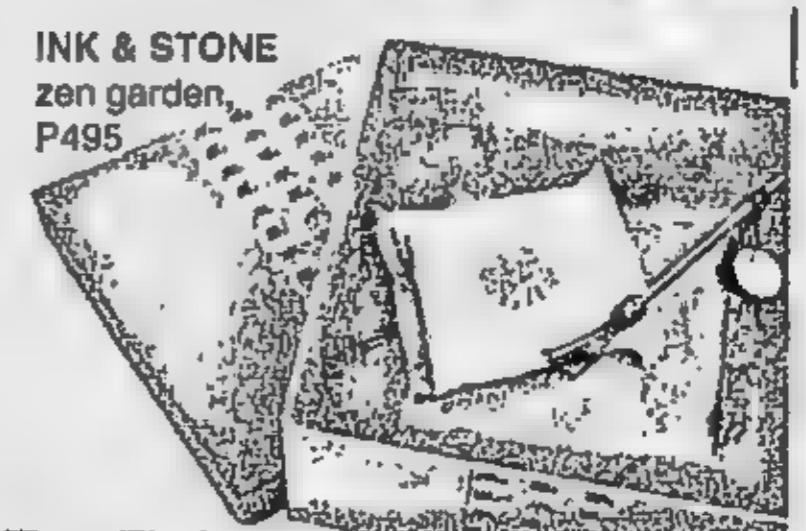
Typhoon corkscrew,  
P1,450, QUILL



GUCCI  
ballpoint  
pen, P4,500



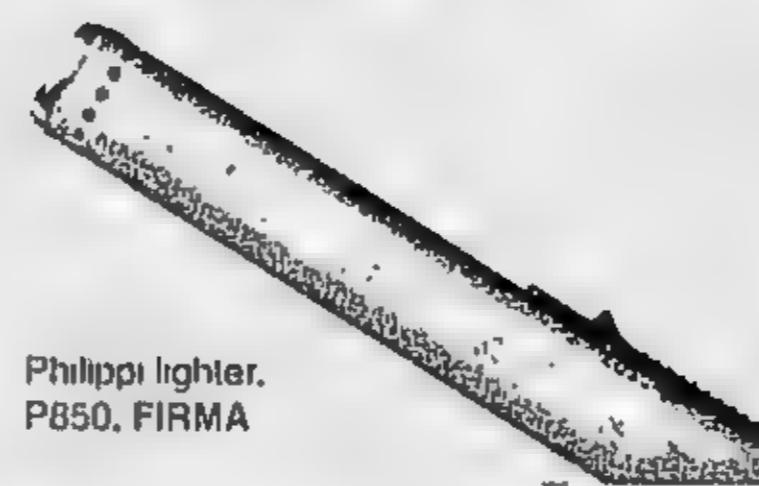
PAUL SMITH  
playing cards,  
P1,250



INK & STONE  
zen garden,  
P495



CLINIQUE  
GLOBAL  
SKIN  
SUPPLIES  
FOR MEN  
SET, P2,400.  
RUSTAN'S



Philippi lighter,  
P850, FIRMA

We made it our mission to get a handle on your guy's coming-of-age work done.

Photography COI SAMOTH



LEATHER  
WALLET  
P1,450  
RUSTAN'S



GREENLAND  
BATH &  
SHOWER GEL  
P250 each.  
BEAUTY BAR



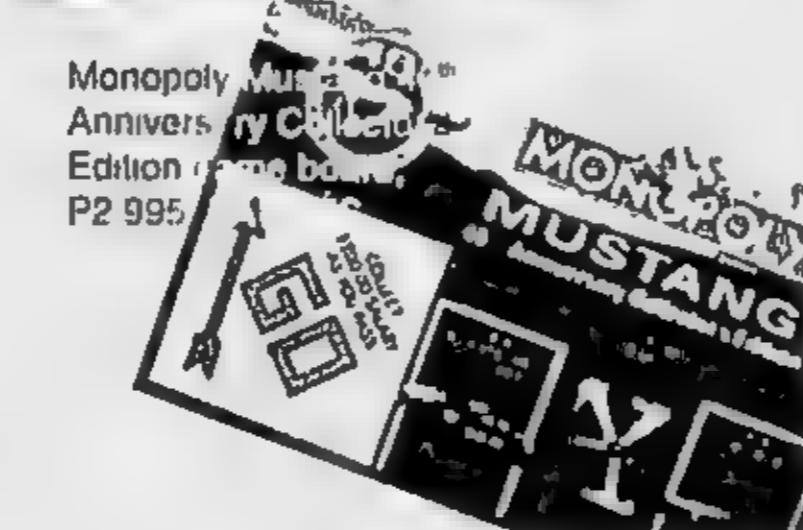
Multiple Choice  
P1,150 SOL.  
P1,150  
RUSTAN'S



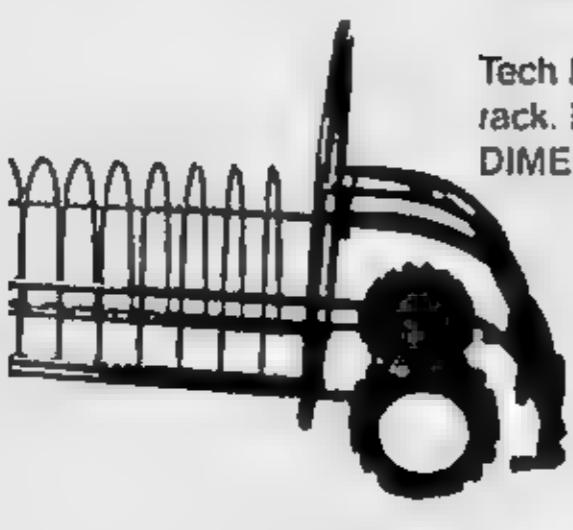
Kazial lighter,  
P998, QUILL



Tech Point CD  
rack, P369.  
DIMENSIONE

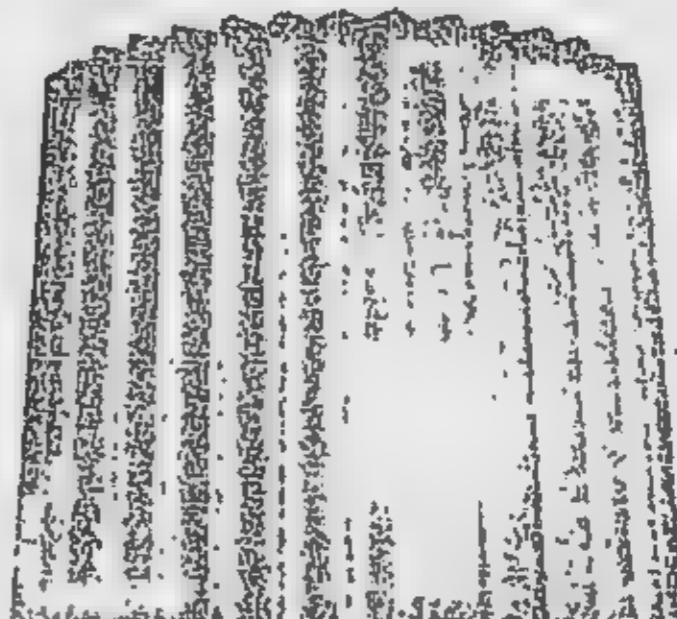


Monopoly  
Anniversary  
Edition  
P2,995



## Bro/Son/ Boyfriend

Hip gifts for  
the man in  
him!



Mr. P One Man Shy lamp,  
P3,495, DIMENSIONE

## Lady Boss/Bestfriend

Holiday gifts that could score brownie points for you!



ARANAZ MANILA 2<sup>nd</sup> level City Golf Plaza, Julia Vargas St., Pasig.  
BEAUTY BAR Galleria 2 Ayala Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> level Shangri-La Plaza  
Mall. BENCH BODY 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Galleria 2 Ayala Center. CAROLINA'S  
LACE SHOPPE Galleria 1 Ayala Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> level SM Megamall Bldg  
B. CHECK IT OUT Greenhills Theatre Mall Greenhills. COACH Greenbelt  
4 Ayala Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> level Shangri-La Plaza Mall. COLOR STONE 2<sup>nd</sup> level  
Lifestyles at Rockwell Powerplant Mall Rockwell. DIMENSIONE 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Galleria  
4 Ayala Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> level Powerplant Mall Rockwell. DKNY Greenbelt 4 Ayala Center.  
DOROTHY PERKINS Robinson's Galleria. ENZO ANGIOLINI 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Greenbelt 3  
Ayala Center. EPISODE Greenbelt 3 Ayala Center. ESSENSSES Rustan's Tower Ayala  
Center Makati. Rustan's Alabang Town Center. FAB SHOP Greenhills Theatre Mall Greenhills.  
FABRIC WAREHOUSE Basement level SM Megamall Bldg. A. FIRMA Greenbelt 3 Ayala  
Center. FULLY BOOKED Powerplant Mall Rockwell. GIRL SHOPPE Hip 2<sup>nd</sup> level Powerplant  
Mall Rockwell. GUCCI Greenbelt 4 Ayala Center. HIP STOP Greenhills Theatre Mall Greenhills.  
IN STORE Greenhills Theatre Mall Greenhills. INK & STONE The Podium Ortigas. ISHQ Astoria  
Plaza, Escriva Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig. JESSICA Greenbelt 3 Ayala Center. KISH 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Greenbelt 3 Ayala Center. LANDES 2<sup>nd</sup> level Powerplant Mall Rockwell. LOUIS VUITTON  
Greenbelt 4 Ayala Center. LUSH Galleria 4 Ayala Center, Powerplant Mall Rockwell, Shangri-  
La Plaza Mall. MAKE ROOM Galleria 4 Ayala Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> level Powerplant Mall Rockwell.  
MANGO Galleria 3 Ayala Center, Powerplant Mall Rockwell. MIX Greenbelt 3 Ayala Center.  
PAUL SMITH 3<sup>rd</sup> level Shangri-La Plaza Mall. PRADA Greenbelt 4 Ayala Center. QUILL 3<sup>rd</sup> level  
Powerplant Mall Rockwell. RUSTAN'S Ayala Center Makati, Alabang Town Center, Shangri-  
La Plaza Mall. SIMPLE PLEASURES Greenbelt 3 Ayala Center. TERRY SELECTION THE  
GOURMET STORE Basement level The Podium Ortigas. THE RUSTAN'S FLOWER SHOP  
Ayala Center Makati, Alabang Town Center, Shangri-La Plaza Mall. TICKLES 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Galleria 4  
Ayala Center, 3<sup>rd</sup> level Shangri-La Plaza Mall. TINT Greenbelt 3 Ayala Center.

### JUST SHOP FOR HIM

BALLY Greenbelt 4 Ayala Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> level Shangri-La Plaza. CINDERELLA Galleria 3 Ayala  
Center. ESSENSUALS BY TONI & GUY 6750 Retail Arcade 6750 Ayala Ave., Makati. FIRMA  
Greenbelt 3 Ayala Center. H-SALON 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Rustan's Tower Ayala Center Makati 817-6149  
KENNETH COLE 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Greenbelt 3 Ayala Center, Powerplant Mall Rockwell. MY BEAUTY  
HUB 6750 Retail Arcade 6750 Ayala Ave., Makati. RANDY ORTIZ 927-6485 PCX Galleria 1  
Ayala Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> level Powerplant Mall Rockwell. RUSTAN'S Ayala Center Makati, Alabang  
Town Center, Shangri-La Plaza Mall. SALVATORE FERRAGAMO Greenbelt 4 Ayala Center,  
Powerplant Mall Rockwell. U Rustan's Tower Ayala Center Makati, 5<sup>th</sup> floor Rustan's Twin Towers  
Shangri-La Plaza Mall.

A.CONSPIRACY 0917-8997699 BENJIE ANGELES 0922-8071505. PAULA DEL ROSARIO  
littlefreakinpaula@yahoo.com. TOM EPPERSON 890-3621 H-SALON 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Rustan's Tower  
Ayala Center Makati 817-6149. HAINEE 0917-4077666. ARNZ LORENZO 0919-2085558.  
PETITA 0917-8390924. COI SAMOTH coi\_samoth@yahoo.com 0927-9515450. JAKE  
VERZOSA 0917-5780681.

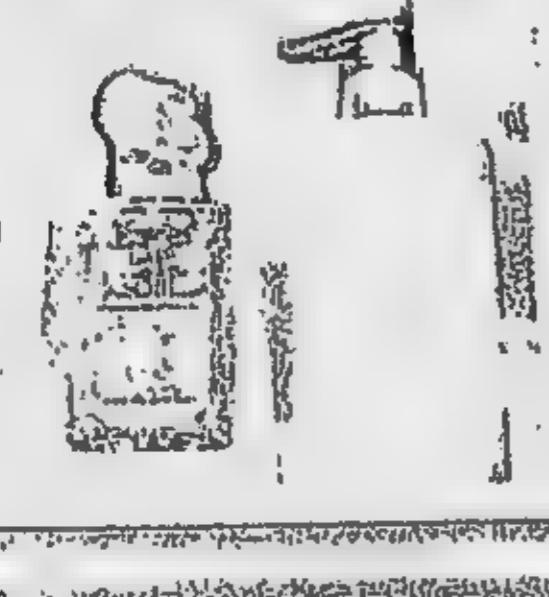
## Bazaar Schedule

### November

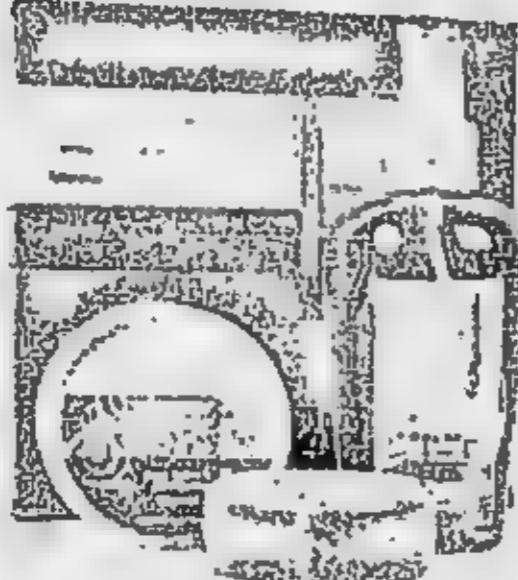
4-7	12 <sup>th</sup> Taiwan Products & Technology Fair Supermarket Show
4-7	Ayala Alabang Village Garden Club Bazaar
6-7	Metrobank Credit Cards Bazaar @ Le Pavilion Womens' World 2004
14-14	Ayala Alabang Village Association Bazaar
11-14	Wish A Christmas Bazaar @ Xavier School Courts
14-14	14 <sup>th</sup> Philconstruct Show 2004
14-14	Zonta Club of Muntinlupa Bazaar
18-21	Bizarre, Bazaar @ Le Pavilion
21-21	American Women's Club of the Philippines Bazaar @ World Trade Center
20-21	Noel the Discovery Bazaar & Christmas Shop Expo @ World Trade Center
24	Heaven Sent Bazaar @ The Fort
26-28	Eagles of Hope Christmas Bazaar @ Ateneo de Manila Covered Court
28-28	
27-28	

### December

1-2	Lifestyle Network Bazaar @ RCBC Tower
10-12	Christmas Bazaar Back-To-Back with Garden and Pet Show @ Mega Trade Hall
11-12	Ayala Alabang Village Association Bazaar
15	American Women's Club of the Philippines Bazaar @ World Trade Center
18-19	Sisters of Mary Missionary Bazaar



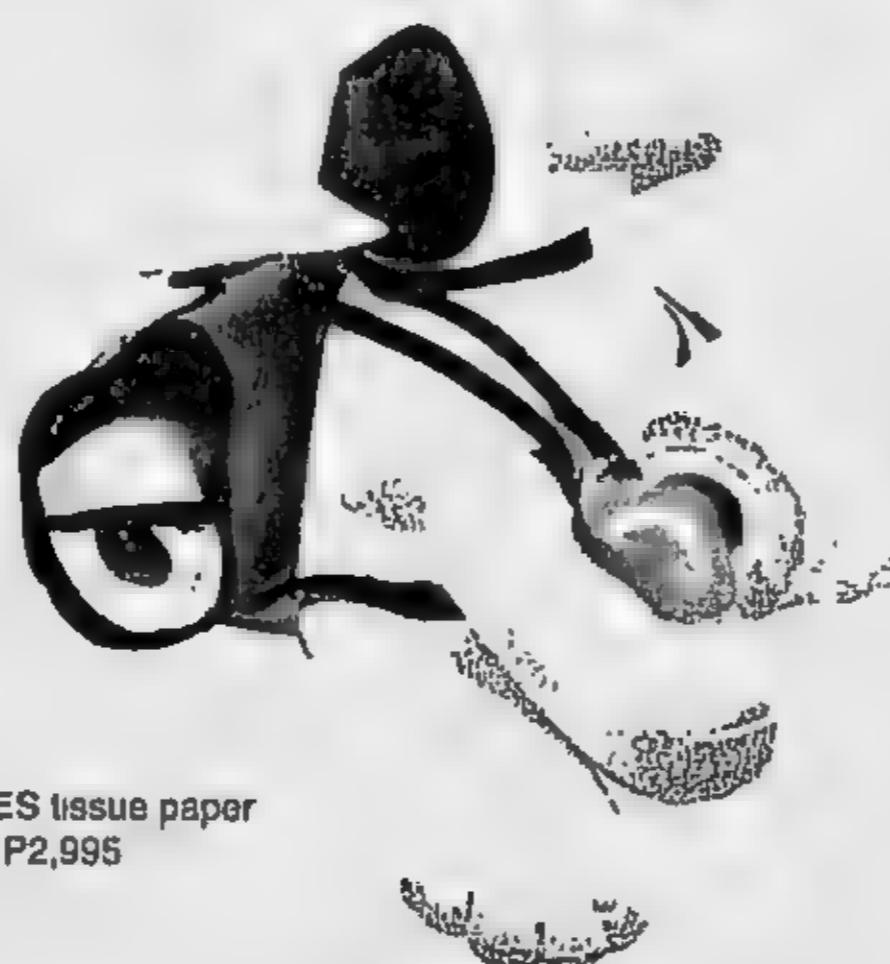
URBAN  
RITUELLE  
FUSION  
In Scents  
of Indigo.  
P1,650,  
BEAUTY  
BAR



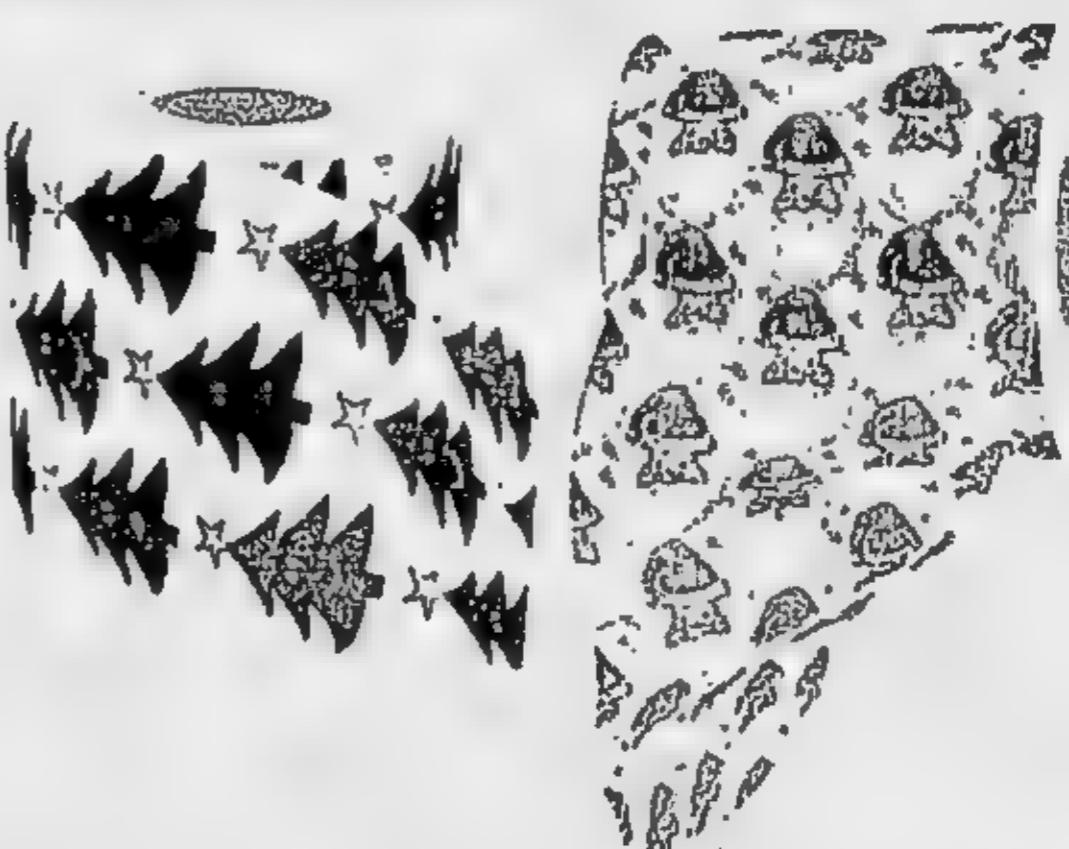
## Jingle All The Way

Decorate the tree, wrap  
gifts, eat *bibingka*.  
Whatever you do, enjoy  
the season even as  
nature calls.

TICKLES tissue paper  
holder, P2,995



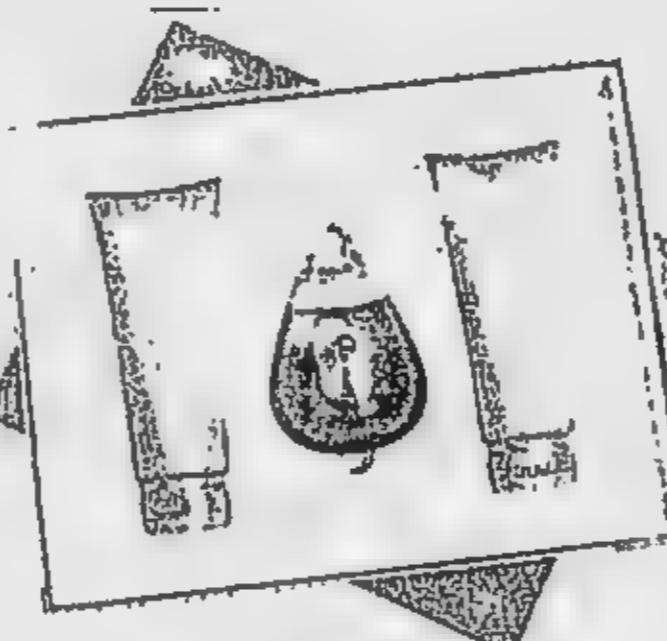
Topi toilet paper, P285 each, QUILL



SISLEY EAU DU  
SOIR CREATIONS  
HUBERT ISABELLE  
D'ORNANO, P9,000,  
RUSTAN'S

LUSH  
YOU'RE  
THE BEST  
gift pack,  
P1,195

ESTÉE LAUDER  
BEYOND  
PARADISE  
INTOXICATING  
LUXURIES,  
P5,600,  
RUSTAN'S

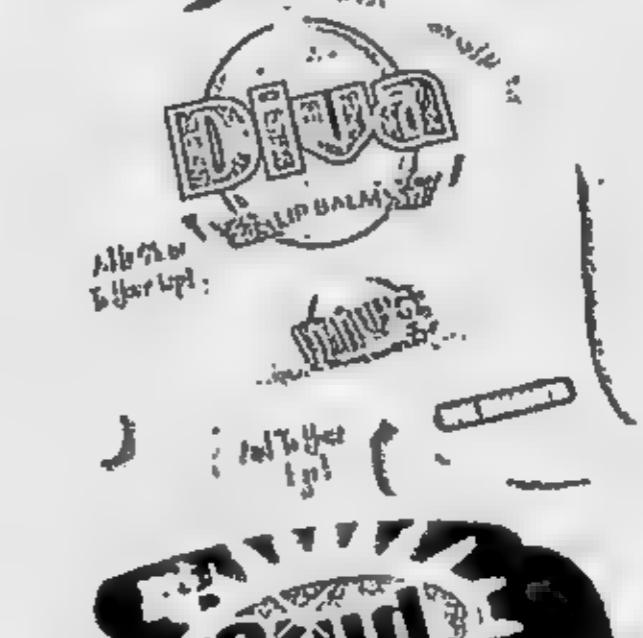


SHU UEMURA CHIC &  
ROUGE FOUNDATION  
KIT, P3,995, RUSTAN'S



## Balmshell

Let your lips do the talking  
this holiday season. Tell all  
with these instant Christmas  
stocking fillers.



All from TICKLES, P299.75 each



## Shiseido

2<sup>nd</sup> floor Glorietta 3 Ayala Center

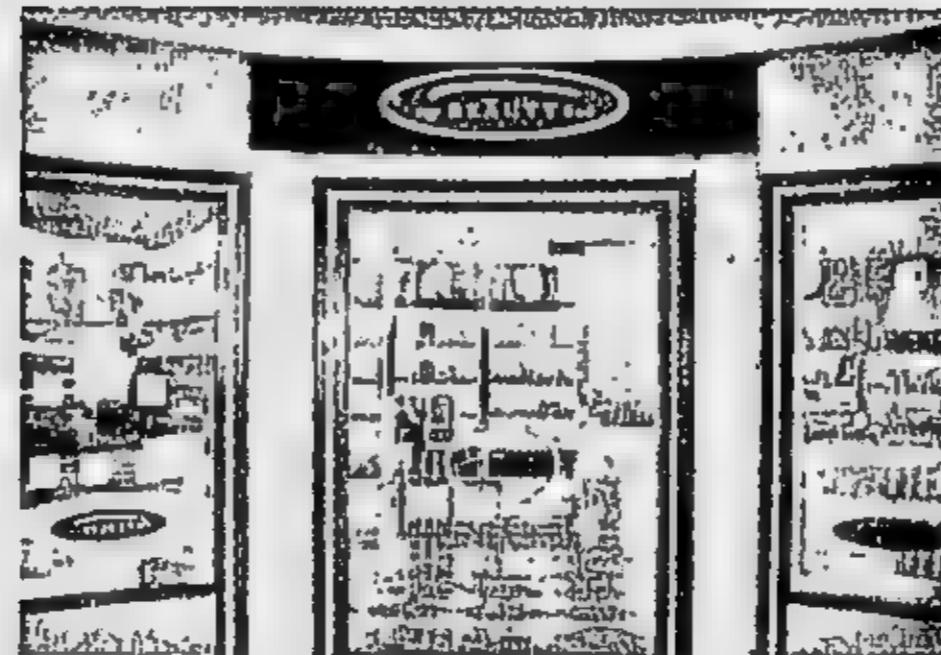
Cacao Fizz Creamy Blush. Deep Bordeaux Mascara. Ruby Dazzle eye shadow. Red Currant Lipstick. This season calls for dramatic richness! So girls, get ready to paint the town red!



## Studio 546

3<sup>rd</sup> level Shangri-La Plaza Mall

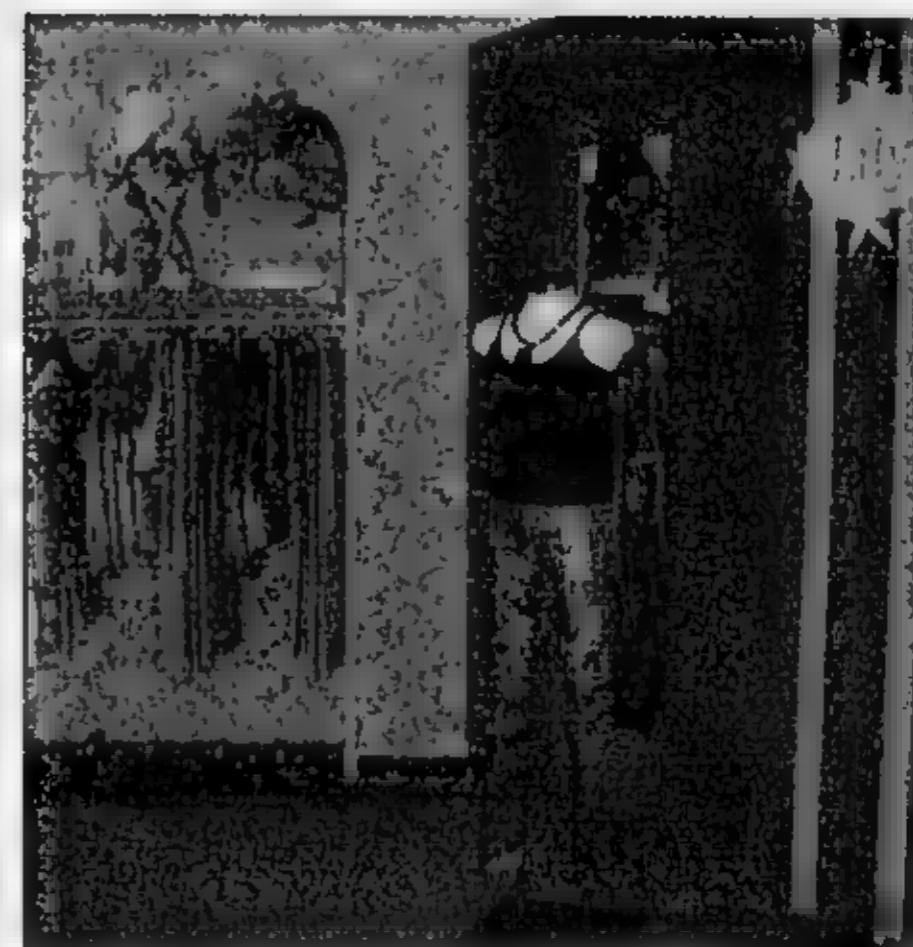
Eric Maningat works his makeup magic at his new salon STUDIO 546 at Shangri-La Plaza Mall. Let him play fairy godmother for your holiday beauty makeover. We swear by his Midas touch!



## My Beauty Hub

6750 Retail Arcade, 6750 Ayala Avenue, Makati

Beauty junkies unite! Get an all-time high shopping for exclusive brands Carita, Nuxe, By Terry, and Pieds Nus at **MY BEAUTY HUB!** Budding beauty enthusiasts will quickly get addicted with varied workshops and classes offered. Note: My Beauty Hub also has Men's Inc., a special area just for men. It carries the brands Zirh, Nickel, Phytomer Homme, and Shiseido for Men. This time it's okay to bring your hubby without the risk of getting the evil eye.



## Lily

Lifestyles at Rockwell 2<sup>nd</sup> level Powerplant Mall, Rockwell

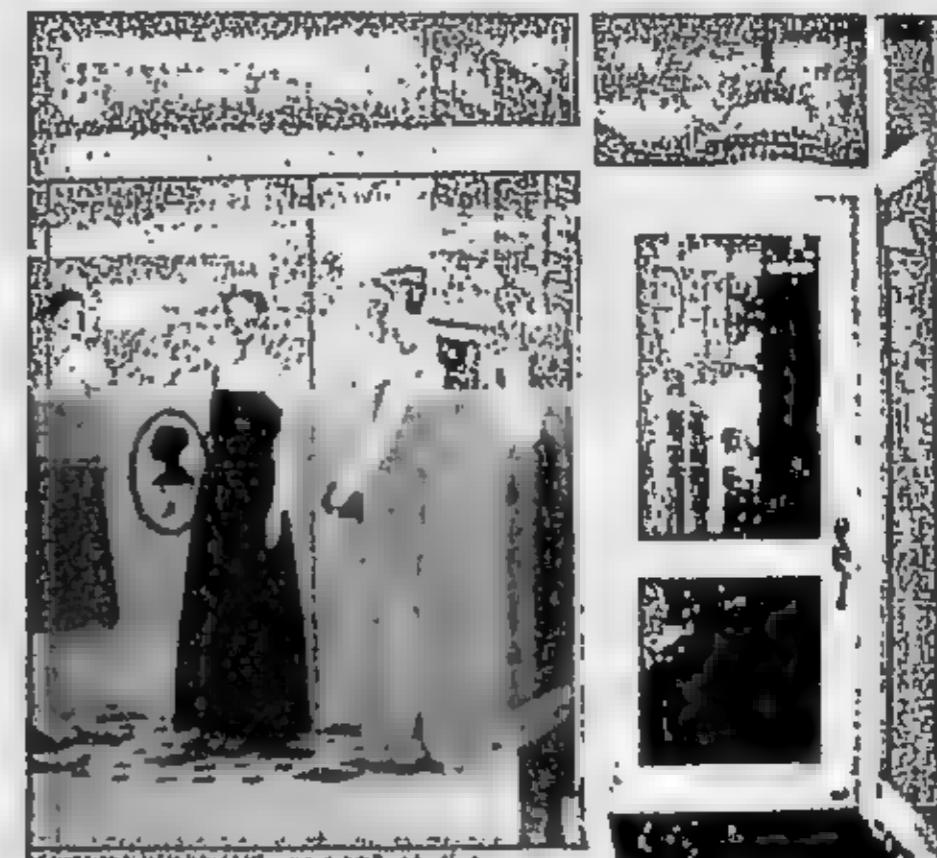
Get on the East-West trend this holiday season with the Asian-inspired goodies at Lily. Check out its newest store at the 2nd level of Powerplant Mall, Rockwell. **JUST SHOP** must-buy: the cheongsam cape -- oh so stylish!



## Carolina Herrera

Available at Rustan's

Matching clothes for you and your honey is way too cheesy. But matching scents? Why not! 212 On Ice and 212 Men On Ice are all about frozen passions. A perfect gift for you and your man!



## Atelier M

Greenbelt 3 Ayala Center

Madame Tina Maristela-Ocampo, queen of chic, brings you gorgeous evening numbers by esteemed brands such as Vera Wang. Evening glamour just became more exciting!



## MaxStudio.com

Greenbelt 3 Ayala Center

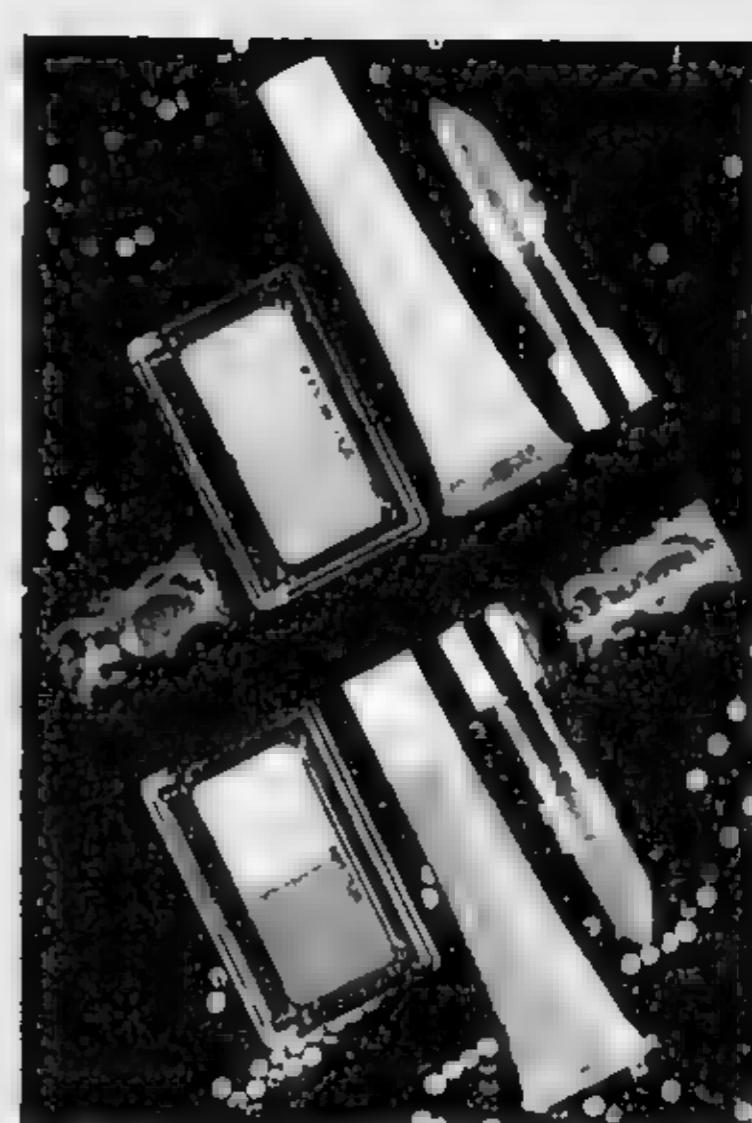
Just opened. Another shopping haven for style-seeking Filipinas. The elegant and chic style of MAXSTUDIO.COM is located at Greenbelt 3. Stock up on rich cashmeres, graceful chiffons, and glamorous satins. Luxurious fabrics -- this is what Holiday 2004 is all about!



## Dorothy Perkins

Robinson's Galleria

Portobello chic, English-style tailoring, chunky knits and rich tweeds will transform you into a certified Brit babe! **DOROTHY PERKINS** is located at ground level Robinson's Galleria.



## Shu Uemura

Available at Rustan's

Oriental beauty and bold festivity. Dazzle this season with this Oriental Christmas formula from **SHU UEMURA** = Oriental feminine eye shadow palette + glow on pink 30 + Rouge 4 #135 + Jasmine Gold sweet lip gloss. A high impact look with minimal effort!



## Colour Eighteen

2<sup>nd</sup> floor Rustan's Tower, Makati

Get in the mood of dressing fall style. Don the festive colors of the season in cool wintery prints! Layer it at **COLOUR EIGHTEEN**.



## TIGI Bed Head

Available in all leading hair salons

Get ready for your night out in the city. Sport a stellar look and literally shine with **TIGI BED HEAD**. Its variety of products address practically every hair care and styling need that help create that Hollywood celebrity look like *Sex and The City* star Sarah Jessica Parker.



## Alfa

Robinson's Galleria

Whether a Modelo, Kolehiyala or Sosyal you're sure to find a bag to suit your style this season. Come November, colorful suede, patchwork and contrast linings come into play by in-house designer Jill Llema. Angela Laurel glams up **ALFA**'s December collection with evening bags perfect for the sosyal in you!

INQUIRER

IRREGULAR PAGINATION

OCT 10 2004

It's Free!

JUST  
STOP

FOR HIM

Jericho Sales

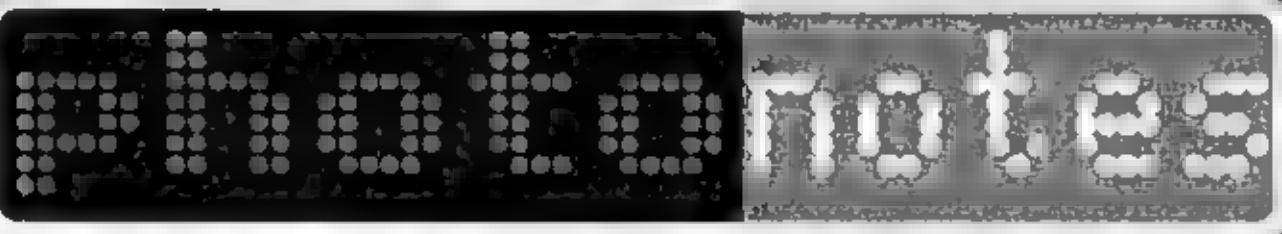
tip it





# honeydaddy

**addict**  
MOBILE

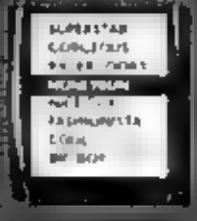


## SEND NOTE TO 244

Why MMS around with plain photos when you can throw some POW into your pictures?

### To use Photonotes:

1. Take a picture with your camera phone.
2. Choose a template for your picture.
3. Then send NOTE keyword.
4. Receive your Photonote from 244.



Send your friends photo messages tricked-out with cool graphics and slick labels, and let 'em know who's a hottie, who's a honey, and who's your daddy!



### To create your own Photonote:

1. Create an MMS message using the photo you want to send, then attach your personalized Photonote by entering: WRITE (your personalized note) (up to 12 characters only).  
Ex: (YOUR PHOTO) WRITE HAPPY BDAY!
2. Send your MMS to 244.
3. You'll receive an MMS reply with your personalized greeting now converted into a Photonote.



Enjoy vivid multimedia features on your Addict Mobile phone by setting up your GPRS and MMS.

#### How to set GPRS:

- a. Send SET GPRS (phone model) to 211 (ex. SET GPRS 8110)
- b. To activate GPRS service, Text GPRS ON to 333

#### How to set MMS:

- a. Send SET MMS (phone model) to 211 (ex. SET MMS 8110)
- b. To activate MMS service, Text MMS ON to 333

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# HAIRLOSS STOPPS AT SVENSON

"MY EXCESSIVE FALLING HAIR PROBLEM IS OVER!"

"I once had excessive falling hair and itchy scalp problems. Although no one else noticed, I wanted to do something about it because the thought of becoming bald bothered me. Svenson was my first and only choice for solving hair loss. Through their treatments, I noticed a definite improvement: the itchiness was gone, my hair feels thicker and looks healthier. With the kind of hair and scalp problems that I had, I'd recommend Svenson. Now, I'll never be bothered by impending baldness!"

Ferdie Agustin  
Business Executive

Stop Hair loss and recover the natural thickness.

Call Svenson today!

**Svenson**  
INTERNATIONAL  
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD

# Call 892-HAIR (4247)

MAKATI  
15/F GT Tower  
QUEZON CITY  
4/F Cedar Exec. Bldg.

BINONDO  
11/F Federal Tower Bldg.

ALABANG  
4/F Citibank-Frabelle Bldg.

CEBU  
7/F Keppel Centre • TEL: 234-0851

## editor's note



## our flip man

Jericho Rosales

What's on your shopping list?  
Suits, glasses, and shoes  
Where do you shop?  
New York, Europe, Haighst in San Francisco,  
and sometimes in ukay-ukay.  
Who do you usually shop for?  
I'll shop for my girl and my brother.  
What gifts do you want for Christmas?  
1. Authentic Panama hat  
2. Brit Bulldog  
3. Unique chess board  
4. Jughead comic book

*Tim Yap*

editor TIM YAP  
design MARLONE RUBIO  
fashion assistants  
KATRINA CRUZ, DAVID  
MILAN  
writers GINO DE LA PAZ,  
MARK PLATON

special thanks to DPI  
STUDIO, Astoria Plaza,  
Ortigas

## tim yap's picks



ON THE DART  
(Clockwise from top):  
Zirh Correct, Vitamin Enrich Serum, P1,650, MY BEAUTY HUB Nivea for Men Face Care Energy Cream Q10, P300, PCX; Decleor Paris, Le Soin-Skin Care for Men- Stop Fatigue-Rides, RUSTAN'S; L'Oreal Pure Zone, Continuous Purity, Step 1 Deep Exfoliating Gel Wash, P149, PCX; Lancôme Homme, Recharging Moisturizer 24hour Hydration Anti-tightness, P2,400, RUSTAN'S; Zirh Clean, Alpha-Hydroxy Face Wash, P950, MY BEAUTY HUB; Bed Head Tigi After-Party- Smoothing Cream for Silky, Shiny Looking Hair! P1,390; Bed Head Tigi Boy Toys- Body Building Funkifier, P1,390; Bed Head Tigi Shine Junkie- In A Can Outshine Everyone!, P1,390, all available at ESSENSUALS BY TONI & GUY Zirh Protect, Daily Face Moisturizer, P1,650, MY BEAUTY HUB.



Model VICTOR BASA  
SALVATORE FERRAGAMO and FIRMA cufflinks and jewelry, prices available upon request

B to the L to the I to the N to the G. A little flash never hurt anybody. Besides, four out of five women would date a guy who wears jewelry.

# im a gambler!

By GINO DE LA PAZ

Photography

Hair and Grooming XENG ZUM



Photography BUTCH BALUYOT  
and Grooming HENRI CALAYAG of H-S-A

Salt polo shirt, P1,750  
Salt coat, P3,950  
Earl Jean jeans, P9,500  
All available at RUSTAN'S  
BALLY necktie, P4,450 each

Tapered jeans?  
Leave them  
in the 90s.  
Dark boot-cut  
denims are the  
modern fail-safe  
basics. Dial it  
up a notch with  
denim trousers,  
which are cut  
like dress pants  
and are cooler  
than khakis

It's a  
misconception  
that hats are  
hard to pull  
off but there  
is a style to  
suit everyone.  
Start slow. Try  
engineer caps  
and move  
on to trilbies.  
Whatever you  
do, don't slap  
on a big floppy  
hat. Unless  
you want to  
project J Lo



4You T-shirt, P1,250  
Salt coat, P3,950  
Both from RUSTAN'S  
KENNETH COLE jeans, P4,850  
BALLY necktie, P4,450

Invest in a good  
streamlined suit  
then break it up.  
For night outs on  
the town, layer  
your jacket over  
a slick printed  
shirt and pair  
that with jeans.  
For casual  
fridays, try your  
plain suit pants  
with a colorful  
button-down.  
y-o-u will look  
h-o-l.

Flirt men T-shirt, price available  
upon request, CINDERELLA  
Salt coat, P3,950  
Earl Jean jeans, P9,500  
Both from RUSTAN'S



Model BRENT JAVIER

Color equals  
youth and it  
can shake up  
the dullest of  
looks. Color  
can make you  
feel special  
in a world of  
black, navy  
blue and gray.

Freshlive T-shirt, P1,250, U  
4You polo shirt, P4,950  
Earl Jean jeans, P12,500  
Both from RUSTAN'S

Model VICTOR BASA

# BEST BET

A manse worthy of the Gotti's, bajillions parked in the bank, and a dapper demeanor that makes all the females swoon. Does that sound like one of those reality TV bachelors? Maybe so, but Jacques Dupasquier will gamble all of that for love. Ladies (and gentlemen), let's place our bets on him.

**JUST SHOP For Him:** What are you willing to gamble on?  
**Jacques Dupasquier:** L-O-V-E

**JSFH:** Top three shopping destinations?  
**JD:** Paris, New York, and Hong Kong!

**JSFH:** Style Tips for Men?  
**JD:** BE YOURSELF.

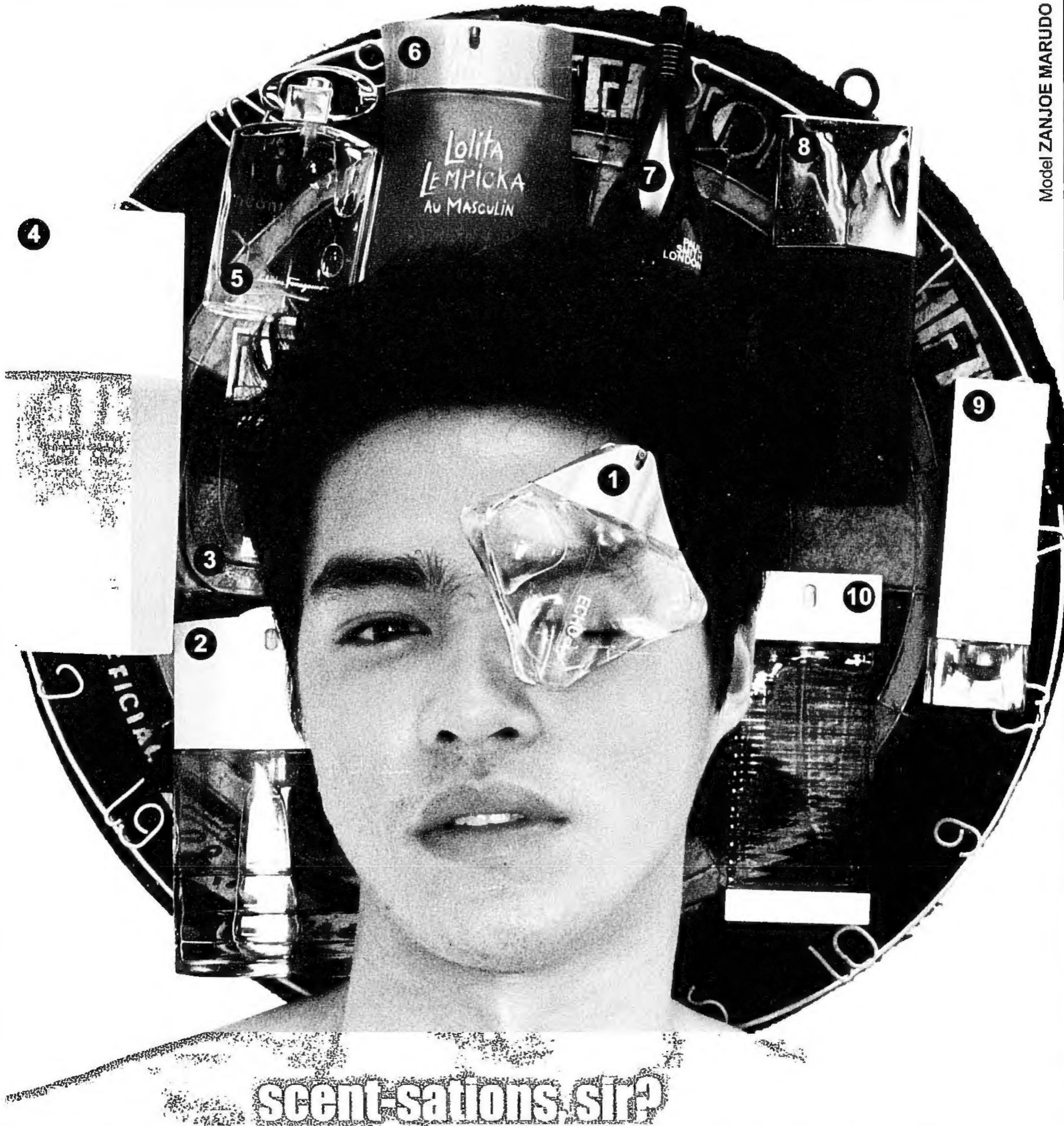
**JSFH:** Skin care must haves...  
**JD:** A good moisturizer like Shu Uemura Deep Sea Therapy Moisturize Recovery Emulsion.

**JSFH:** Five things you can't live without?  
**JD:** Watch (model depends on mood, day and style), Nokia Communicator, Chapstick, Listerine Strips, and wallet (of course!).

**JSFH:** Your vanity kit is composed of?  
**JD:** The list is too long to fit in one, so I need to travel with two (no joke!).

**JSFH:** Your day is not complete without?  
**JD:** A good workout at Gold's Gym.

**JSFH:** Your secret to your glow is?  
**JD:** Confidence . . . and Rachel Soriano



## SCENT-SATIONALS

**1 ECHO** Pleasantly light, sends ripples of cool and calm throughout your body just like that perfectly overcast sky. Wear it for a stroll on a breezy afternoon (30ml., P1,998). **2 OXYGENE** A milder L'eau Bleue with a different philosophy. Bleue smells like the log cabin; Oxygene is what it feels like to live in it. For trips out of town (50ml., P2,650). **3 VET Y VER** Vaguely spicy with traces of sweet pome fruits. Sunday brunch dates, when you're there simply to enjoy good eats and good company, and not out to make a statement (30ml., P2,350). **4 L'EAU D'ISSEY** Zen Citrus, a straightforward scent. For purists who don't have time for BS (75ml., P3,050). **5 INCANTO** No, not another hit from Salbakuta (sp?). spicy and woodsy, reminds me off... nutmeg! Very late night coffee with a book or a friend (30ml., P2,098). **6 LOLITA LEMPICKA** Say whuh? Had me seriously confused trying to decipher the scent, just like the name. sweet & powdery with a kick at the end (50ml., P2,350).

For those bravely secure about their masculinity and would like to try something new and different. **7 PAUL SMITH** Stick it close enough to your nose, and it smells almost like Absolut Vanilla with licorice. Nearly as intoxicating, too. For smart-casual affairs that have potential for a slow dance (100ml., P3,950). **8 L'EAU BLEUE D'ISSEY** Definitely cedar. If you want to make a strong impression... or be remembered as a scratch-n-sniff for a loghome (75ml., P3,250). **9 CONTRADICTION** Very clean, aseptic. Almost rubbing alcohol-esque, but with a fresh vibe. Goes perfectly with that post-work-out aura (30ml., P2,650). **10 TSAR** For some reason, reminds me of the library at our old house; or uncles that visit on weekends. Probably for the more mature set, or just plain nostalgic and old-fashioned. (All available at RUSTAN'S). —Mark Platon